The Middlebury Campus

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Forum reaffirms Commons' future

By Brian Fung
Staff Writer

College officials granted the public a brief first glimpse of Middlebury's new Master Plan at an open forum last Thursday. The plan revealed includes an ambitious list of proposals — everything from the closure of Old Chapel road to the future demolition of Battell Hall.

Led by a presentation from landscape analysts Michael Dennis and Jose Almiñana, the forum showcased a number of potential paths for development of the College's Commons and fine arts program, as well as automobile and pedestrian accessibility over the next 50 years.

Acknowledging the dramatic restructuring effort that would be required to achieve its goals, Dennis, of the Boston-based planning firm Michael Dennis & Associates, stressed that the process would be both exhaustive and resource-consuming but would eventually pay off.

"Plans that call for 'five new buildings in the next five years' are generally obsolete after the first two," said Dennis. "But we think we have a plan that's functional and unique."

Fostering Community

The new Master Plan, which is slated for final evaluation and approval by the Board of Trustees next August, aims to extend the Commons to the entire campus by making each Commons more geographically contiguous. Dennis cited Ross and Atwater Commons as models for an ideal Commons-based College, while denying concerns that such a move would divide the student body.

"The Commons nurtures college life in smaller communities," said Dennis.

Dennis and Almiñana, a consultant from Philadelphia landscape architecture firm Andropogon Associates, began by working on housing and public space simultaneously, fo-

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Marie Horbar

Renovations to Proctor would improve food quality and serving logistics while maintaining its cozy atmosphere.

College ponders Proctor's fate

By Kelly Janis
Staff Writer

In an effort to rejuvenate an aging Proctor Dining Hall, College officials are currently deliberating future renovations that would bring the building up to the standards of other campus dining halls. While a final decision has yet to be made, the possibility of commencing construction as soon as August 2007 is on the table.

"At this time the President and the Board have not decided about either the short-term or long-term prospects for Proctor," said Associate Vice President of Facilities Services Susan Personette. "This issue is still very much in play."

"Nothing would happen until next August, if anything were to happen regarding closing Proctor," said Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette. "We know that Proctor is the place that students like to be creative. We understand that the salad bar is a hugely important place. I like to use the analogy of an old flipper. Proctor might look ugly, it might look worn out, but, man is it comfortable."

In spite of its popularity with students, the dining hall's configuration has its share of drawbacks. "Proctor has what I call the magic wall of food," said Biette. "We don't see who is in line. At Atwater and Ross, we see you coming, so we know to make food, because there you are. We can see how much food to produce, and therefore, we're cooking to what the need is at that point."

Ultimately, excessive food waste is thus averted. More open kitchen arrangements would also aid students with special requests or food allergies who need to communicate with cooks, rather than having to head downstairs in search of the kitchen, according to Biette.

Renovating Proctor could also better integrate its beloved amenities with the facility. One proposal

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State Police trace mailroom theft to Shoreham resident

By Kathryn Flagg
Associate Editor

Local Shoreham resident Steven Browne was cited recently for allegedly cashing stolen checks, three of which have been traced back to the College's mailroom, the Department of Public Safety reported on Tuesday. Vermont State Police cited Browne to appear in court on four counts of forgery after supposedly cashing the checks in Burlington, Bristol and other nearby townships.

The ongoing investigation signals significant headway on a handful of the thefts that have riddled College dining halls and the student mailroom since January.

"We're very happy that the State Police have been able to solve at least some of these crimes," said Dan Gaiotti, assistant director of Patrol Operations for Public Safety.

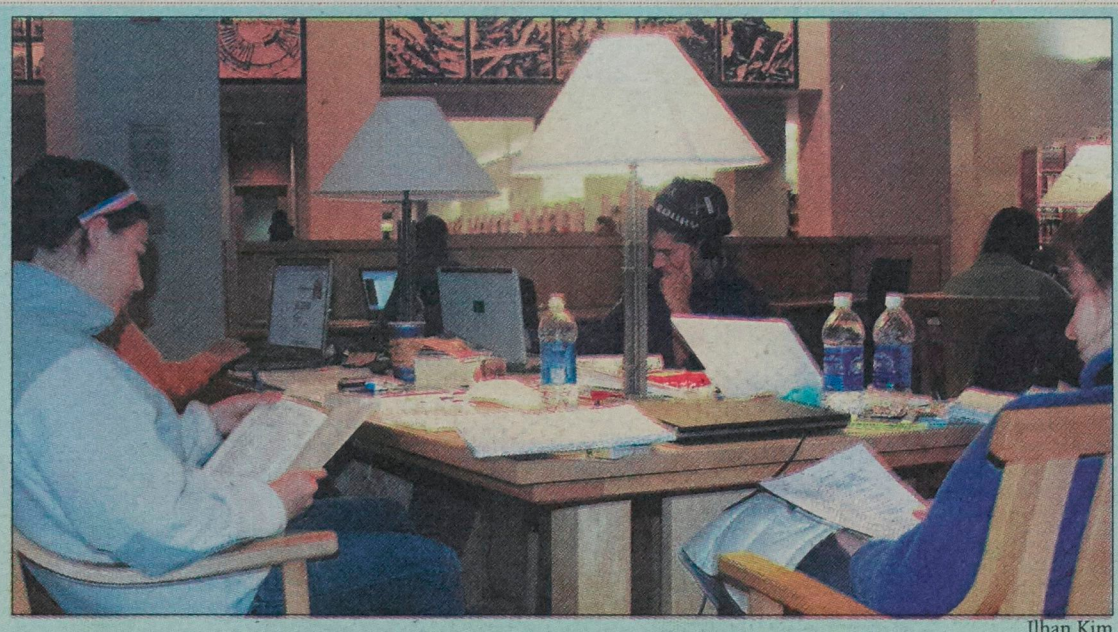
According to Gaiotti, Browne used student identification cards and driver's licenses stolen from bags outside of College dining halls to cash the checks, which officials believe were taken from unlocked student mailboxes. State Police contacted the College roughly two weeks ago, after identification material belonging to College students was uncovered during the investigation of an off-campus theft.

Although investigations into other on-campus thefts, including a spate of paycheck thefts that occurred in November, are still ongoing, news of the citation is gratifying to members of the Department of Public Safety.

"At least there has been some headway made," Gaiotti said.

Gaiotti did stress that the citation should serve as a reminder to students to be attentive to the security of their personal belongings.

Sergeant Lee Hodsden with the New Haven barracks, who directed the investigation, was unavailable for comment at time of press. Officials at the New Haven barracks declined to comment and were unwilling to provide further details of the investigation.



Ilhan Kim

'Tis the Season...

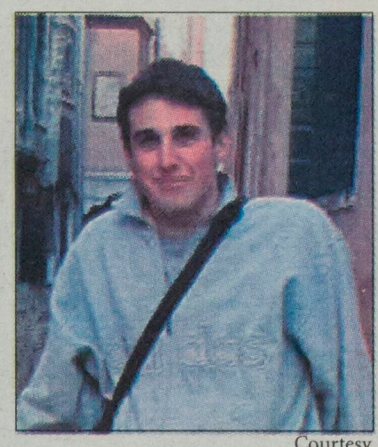
...for hitting the books in the New Library. In acknowledgment of next week's exam period, the library will extend its operating hours, remaining open around the clock to accomodate a flood of studious MiddKids.

Friends grieve loss of Muhlfelder '05

By Zamir Ahmed
News Editor

Thomas Wisdom '05 still remembers the time when he sold his truck during the spring of his senior year at Middlebury. Forced to drive several hours to meet the buyer, he needed a ride back to campus. In desperation, Wisdom asked Sammy Muhlfelder '05 the night before if Muhlfelder would follow him to meet the buyer and give him a ride back to Middlebury. Muhlfelder agreed without hesitation, undeterred by having to wake up at 5 a.m. on a Saturday morning to reach the meeting point.

"He could have said no and I would have never held it against him, but he didn't," said Wisdom in an e-mail on Saturday, "and I would say he never even thought of saying no. He saw someone who needed help and he helped me out. That's the type of person Sammy was, he would have gone out of his way just to help me or anyone else."



Courtesy

Many of Muhlfelder's friends, family members, professors and others who knew him will remember him in much the same way. The Newton, Mass. native passed away at the age of 23 on Wednesday, Nov. 29 after battling a debilitating illness over the last several months. Muhlfelder is survived by his parents, Lewis and Esther Muhlfelder, his brother

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Fall concert Sepomana brings Andrew Bird to McCullough to rock out, page 19

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See our tips for finding the perfect holiday gift in Middlebury, page 8

MIDDBRIEFS

BY LISIE MEHLMAN, JESSIE SINGLETON, BEN SALKOWE AND ZAMIR AHMED

SGA approves creation of Social Honor Code task force

In a Dec. 4 all-student e-mail, Student Co-Chair of Community Council Annie Williams '07 and Student Government Association President Alex Stanton '07 proposed the "formation of a task force to explore the possible implementation of an honor code that seamlessly integrates both academic and social elements of the Middlebury community."

The e-mail, which asserted that students "have an obligation to preserve the core values that make Middlebury a vibrant community," invited students to apply to serve on the task force and explore the potential benefits of a Social Honor Code. As Stanton points out, "the creation of this Task Force doesn't necessarily mean that we feel a Social Honor Code is necessary or feasible at Middlebury. We think it might be helpful, and want to take a look at some ideas for how it might be implemented."

Both Williams and Stanton expressed their desire to reflect the community's existing values. "It is my hope that a Social Honor Code — in whatever form it may take — would reinforce many of the values that members of this Community already live by, such as honesty and integrity," said Williams.

"At other schools with Social Honor Codes, the document is deeply rooted in the institution's historical culture and so it existence today is natural," said Stanton. "One potential problem with bringing a Social Honor Code here is implementing it organically, in a way that doesn't seem intrusive and artificial. This is something the Task Force will address, and I am optimistic that we can find a way to make it work."

Faculty moves to formalize objection to Rehnquist chair

Faculty members are expected to vote Monday on a motion to "reaffirm the College's commitment to diversity." Professor of Russian Kevin Moss first called for the vote at last month's meeting, in response to the establishment of a professorship bearing the name of the late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

"A number of marginalized groups — lesbians and gay men, people of color, women — feel alienated by the decision to name a chair after a powerful figure who did a lot of real harm to us," said Moss after the November meeting.

At that meeting, some faculty expressed concerns that setting "political" criteria for accepting gifts to the College could create "a slippery slope."

But in an open-letter published in *The Middlebury Campus* last week, nearly forty professors from fifteen departments joined Moss to support the motion.

"According to [Middlebury's] mission statement, diversity includes 'the integration of historically underrepresented groups into the campus community,'" wrote the faculty members in their letter. "Given the documented pattern of hostility Judge Rehnquist demonstrated toward these same 'historically underrepresented groups' and the negative effects his judicial decisions continue to have on the individual members of these groups [...] we believe that the recent naming of an endowed chair for [Rehnquist] undermines the College's ability to promote diversity among its faculty, students and staff."

The letter cited the Chief Justice's rulings in six cases concerning civil liberties and civil rights, including his 1973 dissent against Roe v. Wade and final dissent in 2003 against extending personal privacy rights to gays and lesbians in Lawrence v. Texas.

The vote on Moss's motion is expected to take place at Monday's faculty meeting, at 3 p.m. in McCardell Bicentennial Hall.

SGA promotes week-long celebration of diversity

The Student Government Association (SGA) kicked off its first-ever Diversity Week on Monday, Dec. 4. The event, which runs through Dec. 9, is aimed at encouraging students to think about how diversity affects them and the broader College community.

In previous years, the SGA Diversity Committee, which organized the celebration, held single-day talks about diversity instead of longer events.

"This year, we wanted to make a concerted effort to address diversity in a larger scope and scale across our community and therefore wanted to involve academic, cultural and even athletic teams to participate in this week," said Vani Sathisan '07, co-chair of the committee.

The events of the week-long celebration commenced on Dec. 5 with the lecture "Race and Ethnicity in National Media" by Visiting Assitant Professor of American Civilization Kelly Cole. A panel discussion followed a screening of the movie "Crash" on Dec. 6. The events will conclude on Dec. 8 with a Cultural Exhibition and Coffee Hour in The Gamut Room and a Diversity Celebration Dinner in Coltrane Lounge but the spirit of the celebration is hoped to carry on through Saturday.

"For me, I hope that the Diversity Week opens a campus wide dialogue about issues that we still find ourselves hesitant to engage," said SGA President Alex Stanton. "The goal of the week isn't to pursue any specific agenda, it's simply to open a line of discussion."

SGA bill draws mixed response

By Tom Brant
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) housing bill passed in early November has been met with a variety of opinions by Commons staff and students across campus. Some feel that the bill would disrupt the community created by the Commons and take away the advantage in room draw for students who have remained loyal to their Commons. Still, others called the bill an effective step to address fundamental housing inequities.

The bill, passed by the SGA Senate on Nov. 5, recommends changes to the current system that would make the room draw more "open." It would allow rising seniors and rising senior Febs to obtain a room in any non-first-year housing facility regardless of its Commons affiliation, through block draw and regular draw.

Such a change may be welcome to students who live in Commons with less desirable senior housing, but opponents argue that the current room draw system already affords seniors the same opportunity to switch Commons and changes would be unfair to those students who have remained loyal to their Commons.

"We have a lot of different groups living in the Atwater suites," explained Atwater Commons Dean Scott Barnicle. "There are teams like the Frisbee team who have members living together in one suite, and there are also suites where it's just a group of friends living together."

However, some feel that the current system deters students from living with students in other Commons.

"I feel like the Commons system restricts a little bit of housing options," said Kaitlin Fitzpatrick, a Cook Commons first-year. "The current system discourages people from living with people in other Commons. Even though it's technically possible, the fact that you lose your priority discourages you from doing it."

Cook Commons Dean David Edleson, who served on the 2004 planning committee for the current room draw system, countered that room draw does currently provide flexibility for seniors.

We worked hard, and what we found is that the room draw process is extremely complicated any way you look at it.

—David Edleson

"I think that if there's a perception that students aren't free to choose where they live, it's somewhat inaccurate," said Edleson.

The deans agreed that, if the SGA housing bill goes into effect, it makes sense to reward seniors who have stayed in one Commons for their first three years. This concern was addressed by the SGA in an alternate form of the bill discussed in November and passed on to the administration, which would factor in student loyalty to their Commons in determining selection priority. In either form, many students support the SGA bill and think it would improve the current system.

"I think it would be a great idea," said Eric Harvey '09.5, a member of Brainerd Commons. "It would really open it up. It would give more people more options about where they wanted to live."

Some students believe that the housing bill should not go into effect until students understand the changes and know what to expect their senior year.

"If they implement it now, the seniors who have a bunch of points for being loyal to their Commons and who have their hearts set on living somewhere will lose their priority," said Annie Davidson '08, a member of Cook Commons. "They need to wait at least three years."

Edleson and Barnicle both declined to comment on whether or not the changes would be beneficial, because neither wanted to criticize the decisions of the SGA or the College administration.

Edleson emphasized that he and other committee members put a lot of thought into designing the fairness of the current system, even using mathematical models to predict certain aspects of the room draw.

"We worked hard, and what we found is that the room draw process is extremely complicated any way you look at it," he said. "You could inadvertently upset a certain group of people like the Febs if you don't pay attention to details. The ripple effects are significant."

No matter what changes are made to the current system, they are likely to cause controversy because some housing is more desirable than others. In fact, according to Edleson, pleasing everyone is almost out of the question.

"I'm not saying it can't be done," he explained. "I just don't think there's any perfect way to do it."

Proctor: To be, or not to be?

Continued from page 1

is the installation of "a real, live, honest-to-goodness, thought out panini bar," said Biette, including a so-called "cold well" which is "not necessarily a salad bar, but a salad-bar-like line, refrigerated and set up with cutting boards, so you could work down the line as if we were making a sandwich for you."

Food quality is also an area of concern.

"I'm spending your money," said Biette. "If I can spend your money wisely, we could put better food on the plate. Ideally, we look at something like the Commons barbecue that happens in April, and right now it's burgers and dogs. I think it would be great if we could make it better. If we had money to make that better, then, gee whiz, couldn't we make other things better along the way, too?"

Another factor is that of versatility. "One of the big pieces is to be able to close off that serving area to have the use of the dining room as a social space," Biette said. "We would like to change the furniture into something Atwater-like, which is very easily moved."

Ultimately, Biette is a proponent of Proctor's renovation. "It's old, tired and worn, and parts are failing," he said. "It just needs to be the appropriate answers to all the questions. The infrastructure needs something more than a Band-Aid."

Approximately 425 students enrolled in the French and Spanish Summer Language Schools dine simultaneously in Proctor during the summer months. For this reason, Biette explained, any renovations which take place would need to be done during the school year, likely with Freeman International Center opening to contain more than language tables in order to absorb displaced diners. Proctor servery employee Ashley Harrington is likewise concerned with hypothetical issues of space. "This place definitely needs to be fixed," she said. "But they need to open another dining hall before they can shut this one down."

Marie Horbar

A "cold-well" would be installed if renovations to Proctor Hall are approved.

Many students are in favor of renovations, but with qualifications. "Just as long as they keep the curtains and the plants, it's okay," said David Dolginow '09.

Matt Vaughan '09 expanded upon this sentiment. "The renovations don't matter, so long as there continues to be strangely flavored chicken breast every night, and lots of pilaf," he said.

Others are somewhat apathetic. "I'm not going to be here next year," Maren Schultz '07 said, "but I'm just glad Proctor made it this far."

Some of Proctor's diners are less than enthusiastic about the dining hall's proposed transformation. "I don't want Proctor to change," said Haruko Tanaka '09. "Proctor has a comfortable, homey atmosphere. The lounge needs to stay. I like the food here. I like how it's artsy. I just really hope that they don't change everything."

"As of right now, there are plans to make plans to make plans," said Biette, "but nothing is solidified in stone.

Plan forecasts development strategy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cusing on the improvement of senior housing, drawing student residence facilities in town closer to campus and arranging the campus into general neighborhoods.

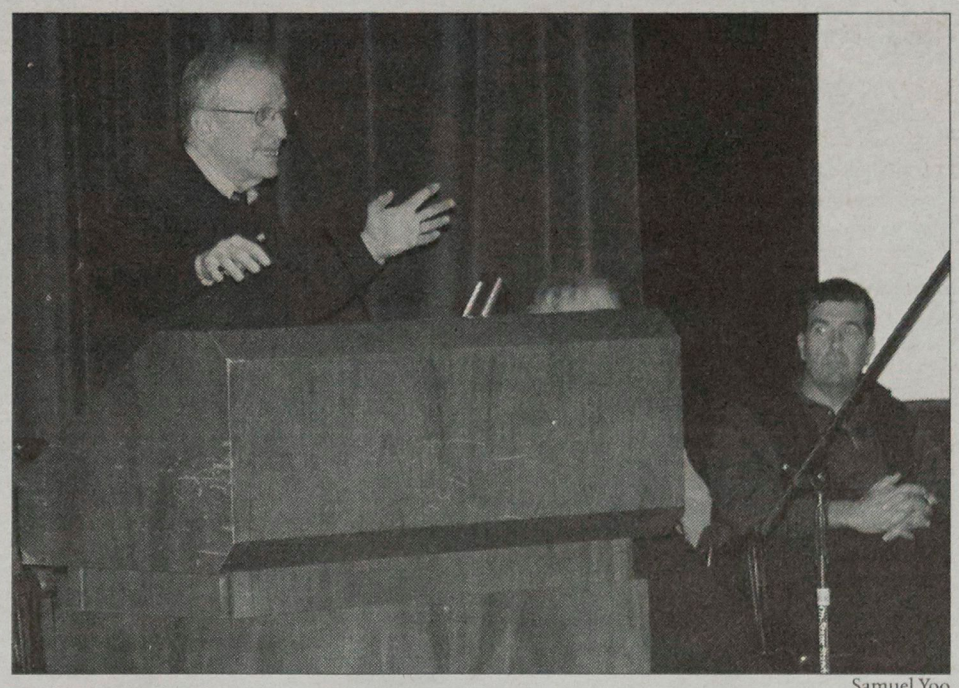
The key to a more viable Commons system, according to Dennis, lies in a clearer definition of "an identifiable exterior space." Dennis cited cases from a number of other institutions that effectively use what space is available to them. Historic Harvard Yard and numerous quads at Princeton University, though small, form courtyards that cultivate a sense of identity. By contrast, Brainerd and Wonnacott Commons are particularly spread out with little in the way of similar public spaces. As such, the two Commons would see the most change under a restructured campus.

The tentative version of the Master Plan set forth last Thursday calls for the construction of new buildings adjacent to Ross Commons, as well as buildings in the area west of Stewart and Hepburn halls, near the Center For the Arts (CFA) and surrounding Battell Beach.

Under the new plan, Brainerd Commons would remain in the southern portion of campus, new Wonnacott Commons dormitories would run parallel to College Street and Cook Commons would revolve around Battell Beach. In the future, Cook Commons could gain a dining hall of its own, leaving a renovated Proctor Hall for use primarily by Wonnacott and Brainerd Commons.

The planning committee also announced the possibility of vacating Voter and Starr Halls, as well as demolishing Battell Hall entirely. Furthermore, the museum in the CFA may be decanted into a new building adjacent to the main library, allowing Wright Memorial Theatre to be moved directly into the CFA itself. Though still in their infancy, these ideas could be included in the final draft of the Plan.

According to Dennis, the notion of preserving and fostering community takes priority in a place where familiarity is both a traditional and fundamental part of a college's character. Consequently, he and Almiñana have paid close attention not only to the way in which such community is represented in college life from a social perspective, but also to its manifestations in the landscape itself.



Samuel Yoo

Master Planner Michael Dennis entertains questions and feedback from members of the College community during an open forum to discuss development over the next 50 years.

"The idea is to make buildings that work with each other," said Dennis, "not buildings that are socially and urbanistically undigestible." In addition, according to Associate Vice President for Facilities Susan Personette, the planning committee made efforts to ensure the preservation of the College's distinctive vistas and open lines of sight, while critically evaluating potential areas of expansion.

Almiñana also spoke about the College's efforts to craft a more environmentally-conscious landscape. Almiñana said that he supported the notion of better-arranged, protected quads, likening them to natural ecotones, or the area in which two different ecosystems overlap. According to Almiñana, in addition to displaying biodiversity, ecotones also provide shelter and habitats.

"There is the potential for the greatest amount of interaction, the greatest amount of transformation, in ecotones," he said, further elaborating on the metaphorical parallel between nature and the College environment.

There are currently no plans to add land to the College's property. Maps shown during the presentation compared the College to Texas A&M University, whose campus is roughly of equal size but whose student population is more than 18 times as large. According to Dennis, any new construction that takes place within the next 50 years would be done on existing soil, meaning a denser campus with buildings more closely clustered together.

"Our policy is that you already have way more real estate than you need," he said. "You all got to stop sprawling."

Everyone gets a say

The foundations of the new Master Plan emerged out of surveys and interviews conducted by the College to determine student and faculty opinions regarding the state of campus facilities. Dennis expressed surprise at the findings.

"People wanted public space first, housing second and dining a distant last," he said. "We had to coax people to talk about dining."

Also being deliberated is the proposal to abolish automobile traffic from Old Chapel Road. The suggestion is being floated as one way to create a more pedestrian-friendly campus. Personette quickly addressed concerns that such a move would eliminate a vital north-south conduit through the College.

"We know how controversial an idea it would be to close Old Chapel Road," she said. "We're thinking of Old Chapel Road as a pedestrian-friendly road. It wouldn't be entirely closed to campus vehicles, but cars would have a secondary role."

We designed our research as a service learning project. We hoped our results would be useful to someon. Luckily, with the Master Planning Process going on right now, they are.
— Kelly Blynn '07

In the event that Old Chapel Road is indeed converted into what Personette called "Old Chapel Walk," no new alternate road is planned to replace it.

"A connection appears to be readily achievable on Hepburn and Hillcrest Roads," said Personette.

The news has sparked concerns over what some students perceive to be an already frustrating parking environment. Despite complaints of inadequate parking facilities on campus, the construction of additional parking lots appears unlikely.

Personette defended the current system. "We would all like to be able to park next to where we work or study," she said, "but sometimes we have to make tradeoffs."

The planning committee's comments regarding transportation policy coincided with the presentation of results from a recent student-led survey that gathered information about transportation behavior on campus.

"We designed our research as a service learning project," said Kelly Blynn '07, one of the students responsible for conducting the survey. "[We] hoped our results would be useful to someone. Luckily, with the Master Planning process going on right now, they are."

Blynn and three other geography majors launched an online survey several weeks ago to assess student support for a more pedestrian-friendly campus. The survey received a total of 736 student responses.

Efforts to promote walking are often frustrated by the need to travel extreme distances, the study showed. The three longest routes as perceived by students include the journey from Atwater Dining Hall to the athletic complex on the southern reaches of campus, as well as the trip from McCardell Bicentennial Hall to Hepburn Hall and the Center for the Arts.

In addition, the study probed student opinions on a range of issues under consideration by the Master Planning committee. An overwhelming amount of students were opposed to closing Old Chapel Road, with only a quarter of all respondents answering in favor of the move.

"You close the road, you lose a lot of on-campus, daytime parking," said Dave Barker '06.5, another member of the survey team. "It's certain that the Master Planners want to make this a Walk, and students are obviously against its conversion. Planners and the College should get more input and proceed with caution."

Meanwhile, as many as 20 percent of respondents claimed that they had never heard of Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR), which offers local public transportation for a small fee. Others wanted both the ACTR service as well as the popular Midd Rides shuttle program to be expanded. With Midd Rides once again accepting telephone requests for van transport, new attention has been given to extending its hours of operation and diversifying its predetermined routes.

"Driving and Midd Rides are almost equal [in popularity] in the winter," said Barker, whose study also investigated the further development of shuttle services in the hope of decreasing student vehicle use.

Some surveyed students outlined various additional routes they deemed ideal for a future Midd Rides expansion. The top three proposed shuttle routes all corresponded with students' longest walking trips, with all of them beginning adjacent to the athletic facilities and ending near Bicentennial Hall or Atwater Commons.

The College's pace of expansion has increased gradually and consistently over its 206-year history. With generous growth estimates predicting an increase in developed space of just under a million square feet in 50 years, attempts to foresee the College's path to come are now looking further than ever into the future. Along with improving the pedestrian experience on campus and completing the Commons-based housing system, master planners are also committing greater resources to achieve carbon-neutrality. Almiñana did not deny the enormity of the task at hand.

"This could be the most significant 50 years of the history of the planet," said Almiñana. "And we're in a position to make a difference, fortunately enough."

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

By Lizz Huntley

After two months of living in Damascus, I don't think I can comfortably say that my study abroad experience is "awesome!" I had these crazy notions that living in a foreign country would be a mind-blowing experience in which I, through making many Arab friends and using my finely honed language skills, would carve a comfy niche into Syrian society and gain a profound understanding of the Middle East.

Well, I've made a couple of really close buddies and my Arabic has definitely improved, but the rest of my checklist remains blank. Bizarrely enough, what I have gained is a deeper understanding of my own culture. Prior to leaving the United States, I was always convinced that we were a nation without real values and traditions tying us together. Given our current foreign policies, as a high school and college student I was even embarrassed to call myself an American.

Being thrown into a new society, however, is like having a giant flashlight shined on your insides. Every interaction that I experience here elicits an immediate reassessment of my own background and what I consider to be "normal" or "right." What does it mean when a man declines to shake my hand because he considers it improper to touch women other than his wife? How can I explain to a Syrian that we don't really consider the phrase "that sucks" to be a swear word, in spite of its derogatory connotations? Why do I find it weird to stick a beef patty, French fries, cole slaw and a sunny-side-up egg in a bun and call it a "hamburger?" Why do they find it weird that I wanted to learn how Muslims pray without actually converting to Islam?

Most of the people that I've met here are curious about the United States, but many have a hard time accepting that the "western" lifestyle provides any real benefit. Sometimes I find myself defending the craziest things, if only for the sake of showing people that there are many ways to live in this world. When Arabs here criticize the moral decay of American society, I throw on some words about cultural relativism and the right to live as you personally see fit, and end up arguing for pre-marital sex and abortion (these solutions don't usually fly in Syrian society). Another time my landlady helpfully explained to me that "Jews are the source of all wars in the world." I in return ended up defending America's support of Israel, a stance I had never adopted before.

I was never a staunch supporter on either side of these issues back in the United States, but mostly because I never really had to think about them — they were just kind of always, well, there. Now that they're being called into question every day, I feel the need to embrace them simply because they make up my background. My heritage, my identity, my understanding of the world — these facets of Lizz-ness are constantly brought to mind when contrasted with what is in front of me. For the first time in my life, I'm actually pleased with what I see. I'll admit, the United States has some weird identity complexes (a secular country that recalls God on its currency? half-naked pop stars claiming to be the proprietors of virginity?), and without a doubt our foreign policy needs to be seriously reevaluated before we lose all credibility on the international level. Yet in spite of these drawbacks, I am finally proud to call myself "American." All it took was leaving the country for me to realize it.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY SCOTT GREENE

A&M students post slavery video online

Three white students from Texas A&M University in College Station recently posted a homemade video on YouTube depicting a master and slave scene in which a man in blackface is beaten for not following orders.

The video, titled "The Adventures of Jeraboem," is two minutes long and, as of Monday, Dec. 4, had already been removed from the video-sharing Web site. Texas A&M easily identified the three men who made the video, and Vice President of Student Affairs Dean Bresciani said that his staff has spoken with the offenders.

In the video, a white master ridicules a white student covered in black shoe polish, calling the man "boy." The scene involves a beating and simulated sexual abuse with a banana.

In "An Open Letter to the Aggie Family" on Nov. 7, University President Robert Gates wrote that the video "is not simply an example of poor judgement and insensitivity" but that "it appears to have been purposefully produced to insult and demean."

Texas A&M has fewer than 800 black students in an undergraduate body of 33,400.

—U-Wire

Students discuss sex, drugs on UPenn site

The University of Pennsylvania has joined a small group of Ivy League campuses in embracing a Web site which offers students an alternative to Facebook and the chance to anonymously discuss topics such as sex and drugs.

Launched last month by Columbia University alumnus Jonathan Pappas, the site, named BoredatVanPelt.com after UPenn's library, only allows students who submit their e-mail addresses to register.

The website functions as an anonymous message board and services all niches of a school's social spectrum. Posts range from solicitations for sex to questions on how to get marijuana on campus.

"I'm really sexually frustrated," claimed a Nov. 21 user of UPenn's website, while a Nov. 17 post called all a cappella groups "a waste of SAC funding."

The original website, BoredatButler.com, debuted last February to immediate success. Pappas created similar websites at Stanford, New York University and all of the Ivy League schools except Brown University. BoredatVanPelt is one of nine "bored-at" sites, all of which feature their respective school's library in their URL address.

—The Daily Pennsylvanian

Dartmouth Review photo sparks outrage

Over 500 students, faculty and administrators gathered at Dartmouth University on Wednesday, Nov. 29 to demonstrate after *The Dartmouth Review*, an independent conservative student newspaper, published a front page photo of an Indian warrior wielding a scalp with the headline, "The Natives are Getting Restless!" a day earlier. The publication intended to ridicule recent complaints by Native American students regarding a series of events seen as racist.

In the fall term, American Indian students protested Homecoming t-shirts showing a knight performing a sex act on an American Indian caricature, and accused fraternity pledges of disrupting a Native American drumming circle on Columbus Day.

"Like an open wound, Dartmouth is hurting — we have all been insulted," College President James Wright told the crowd gathered before Dartmouth Hall.

Dartmouth was originally founded in 1769 as a school for American Indians, and a mission to recruit American Indian students over the past 30 years has resulted in Dartmouth having the largest indigenous student body in the Ivy League, at three percent.

—CNN.com

Remembering Sammy Muhlfelder

'He always had this amazing smile and infectious personality'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Teddy, his grandmothers, Adelaide Muhlfelder and Nelly Levy, and many aunts and uncles.

Friends remember Muhlfelder as someone who cared deeply about his family.

"He asked me to help him pick out a birthday present for his mom just before graduation," Melissa Klein '07 wrote in an e-mail on Saturday, "and I spent all afternoon with him in town in Middlebury trying to find the perfect gift. He was so sweet, looking for something just right, very cute and loving. After a couple of hours we finally found something and when I met his mom at graduation she was wearing it and he was beaming about it."

During Muhlfelder's time at the College, his sense of humor, charm, kindness and happiness endeared him to those that met him. Friends and professors recalled that he never seemed to stop smiling, even when he was unhappy.

"I do not recollect one time when I saw [him] with a sad face, no matter what," wrote Derick Okwan-Duodu '05 in a note memorializing Muhlfelder on the Web site facebook.com. "[He was] cool, collected, happy, jovial, inspiring, and fun. [He] always had this amazing smile and infectious personality that could light up a room."

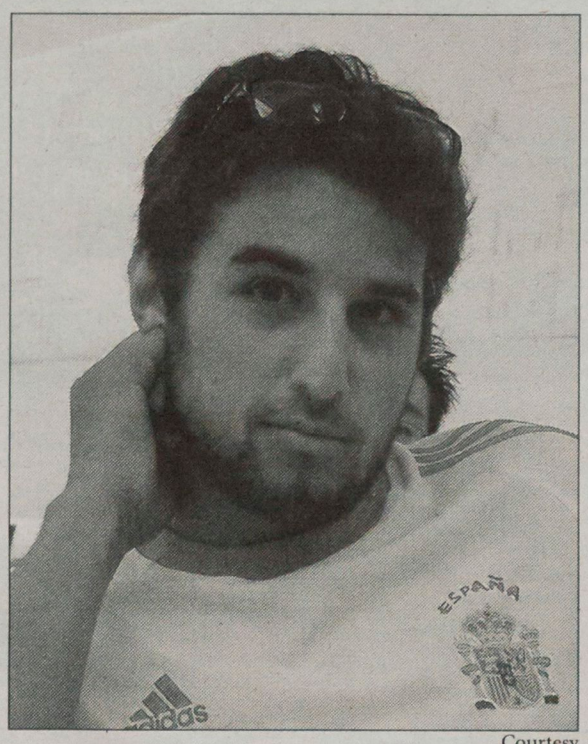
Though on first impressions he could strike some as odd, his sarcastic wit and cheerful personality were capable of winning over those that got to know him better.

"The first memory I have of Sammy was from a physics class my sophomore year," said Wisdom. "All I can really remember is thinking, 'who the heck is this kid!? He would ask crazy questions that had nothing to do with anything we were talking about in class."

"While in Madrid, Spain for spring break my junior year I met Sammy again," continued Wisdom, "and got to know him a little, still wondering who the heck this kid was but seeing that he wasn't quite as weird as I initially thought, just a jokester who liked to have fun. It wasn't until senior year when Sammy lived next door to me that I really got to know who he was and what he was about."

In his academic life, Muhlfelder took on a number of challenges that exemplified his creativity, talent and willingness to work hard. During his junior year in 2004, he studied abroad in two countries, spending the fall semester in Ferrara, Italy before moving on to Getafe, Spain in the spring.

"He was a pre-architecture major and he went abroad studying architecture in two different languages," said Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture Pieter Broucke, Muhlfelder's academic advisor. "It's not self-evident to actually study abroad in two foreign languages but that's really the exception rather than the rule."



Courtesy

Muhlfelder's cheerful nature carried over to his academic performance as well, where he thrived as an intelligent and talented student. "He was good-natured, friendly, lively, engaged, with it, interested in the material, fairly passionate in what he's doing," said Broucke about Muhlfelder's attitude in the classroom. "He really made Middlebury work for him — he really got a lot out of this place."

He was good-natured, friendly, lively, engaged, with it, interested in the material, fairly passionate in what he's doing. He really made Middlebury work for him — he really got a lot out of this place.

— Pieter Broucke

Muhlfelder made his architectural skill known through his work, notably his senior project, a design for a college museum between the old Starr Library and the New Library. Despite the challenges of the project, Muhlfelder excelled by creating a building that showcased his potential.

"It's a very simple building but coming up with a simple solution to a complicated problem is not easy," said Broucke. "This was a very steep learning curve for him. Getting his head around the fact that coming up with a simple solution to something that's really complicated is worthwhile but is also very difficult. He really brought this down to an absolute minimum, single note clarity. If this was a poem, it would be perfect in terms of its relationship between its content and its format."

Muhlfelder ultimately used the project as a path to acceptance at graduate school. He moved on to the University of Michigan's A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture in the fall of 2005, hoping to use the school as a springboard into the architecture profession. Despite his short time in Michigan, Muhlfelder still made an impact in the architecture school, helping to install temporary displays in downtown Detroit in preparation for Super Bowl LX in 2006, as well as continuing to push his boundaries in the classroom through his projects. He was known by his classmates as both a hard worker and a fun guy to be around.

"You could always expect a smile from Sammy, and his lighthearted way of looking at life was amazing," said Sara Sarkisian, a classmate of Muhlfelder's at Michigan. "We'd be sitting in a large lecture hall during class, and if the professor asked a question of the group, you could almost expect a funny and/or completely random response from Sammy, to which all of us would laugh and shake our heads. "He was at the heart of our class, and we are all quite shaken at losing him even though we knew him for a relatively short period of time. He really will stay with us through the rest of our years at Michigan and through our lives."

"The area around his desk was not only a place to work, but a place to take a break, eat a sandwich, and talk about something not related to architecture," said Josh Kleiman, a classmate of Muhlfelder's at Michigan, in a eulogy he read at Muhlfelder's funeral on Dec. 1. "Sammy made sure there was a balance between architecture and maintaining some sort of normal social life that can often get lost in a rigorous grad school program."

Since he passed away, his studio desk has become a memorial to his life, with flowers, memorabilia and photographs of him and his projects placed there to remember him.

To those that knew Muhlfelder, the loss of a great friend, family member, classmate and student will be hard to cope with for a long time.

"Sammy was the sweetest guy," said Klein. "A lot of people are really hurting — we all can't believe he's gone."

public safety log

NOVEMBER 21, 2006 TO DECEMBER 3, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/21/2006	1:00 p.m.	Theft	Backpack	Kenyon Arena	No Suspects
11/28/2006	unknown	Theft	Check	McCullough	Referred to MPD
11/28/2006	unknown	Theft	Check	McCullough	Referred to MPD
11/30/2006	3:30 p.m.	Attempted Theft	Bike	McCullough	No Suspects
11/30/2006	7:56 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	The Mill	Referred to Commons Dean
12/1/2006	11:44 p.m.	Vandalism	Light Fixture	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
12/1/2006	8:30 p.m.	Theft	Cash	Ross Dining	Open
12/1/2006	8:35 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
12/2/2006	11:00 a.m.	Theft	Cash	Ross	Open
12/3/2006	12:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Urination	Ross	Referred to Dean to Student Affairs
12/3/2006	1:10 a.m.	Fireworks	Fire Alarm	Atwater Hall A	Referred to Commons Dean
12/3/2006	6:30 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Unidentified Student	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
12/3/2006	5:10 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Unidentified Student	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
12/3/2006	1:55 a.m.	Vandalism	Hole in wall	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
12/3/2006	1:30 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	—	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 19 alcohol citations between Nov. 28 and Dec. 3.

New faculty, financial aid top financial priorities

By Derek Schlickeisen
News Editor

Commons Deans are bracing for a nine-year period during which the College's decision to invest in faculty resources and student financial aid will prevent the construction of any new facilities for Brainerd, Cook and Wonnacott Commons. With Middlebury's rise in nationwide college rankings, the College now finds itself competing for top students with schools like Williams and Amherst, with endowments of $1.5 and $1.2 billion respectively.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and others have said that financial aid must take precedence over equalizing Commons housing because the College would otherwise risk losing qualified students to institutions that offer better financial aid offers.

"We are first and foremost trying to level the playing field when it comes to financial aid for students who we accept," said Liebowitz. "We don't want students we accept choosing other schools because our financial aid packages[would] leave them with far greater debt upon graduation."

Liebowitz also emphasized that investing in faculty will allow the College to build on its reputation for top-quality teaching — a reputation which this year's *Princeton Review* attests by naming Middlebury number one for "Professors Get High Marks."

"Competing with our peer institutions is important so that we can attract and retain the best faculty," Liebowitz said. "I am hopeful we can raise the funds to add 25 new faculty, thereby allowing our faculty to shift some time they spend in front of the class to time with students one-on-one, or in small groups."

That lofty goal will cost the College $85 million in new endowment, according to Dean of Planning John Emerson. The new endowment would support $4.25 million in new annual expenses, including professor salaries.

Emerson stressed that much would depend on the College's upcoming five-year, $500 million fundraising drive. If the campaign is successful — and early signs, including advance pledges by donors to give over $200 million, suggest it will be — then it will be the largest in the history of liberal arts colleges.

"I am quite sure that resources of this magnitude simply cannot come out of income from student comprehensive fees, so the success of the forthcoming campaign is critically important," he said.

Even as the College plans for its record-setting campaign, however, financial constraints are forcing administrators to make hard choices regarding the Commons system to which Liebowitz and President of the College Emeritus John M. McCardell Jr. remain so committed.

Commons Deans worry that their residential communities, already disrupted by the more than 60 percent of juniors who study abroad, could be further damaged by a Student Government Association (SGA) proposal for "open" senior room draw — a move many students believe necessary since the administration's halting of new dorm construction nearly two years ago.

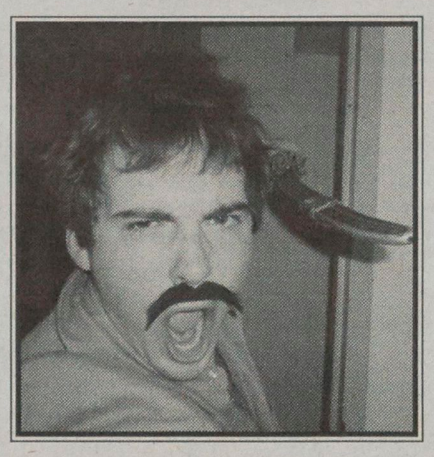
"We have managed to create a sense of identity and community in Cook," said Cook Commons Dean David Edleson, "focusing on the people, the activities, the atmosphere and just trying not to worry too much about the housing and any inequities there."

Edleson said that while the completion of Commons housing would alleviate many of the problems the system faces, he agreed that academics and aid would have to come first.

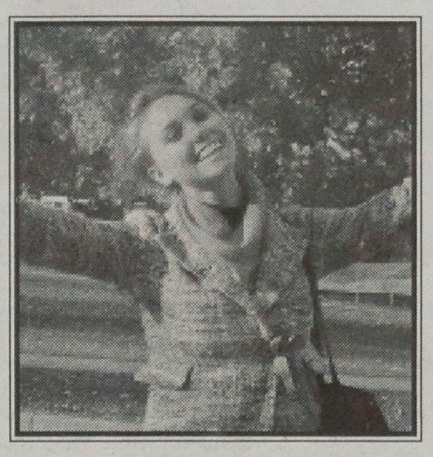
"In Cook Commons, we have always had huge challenges with housing, particularly for our sophomores," he said. "But I work at this college because I believe in the academic mission, so hiring faculty and improving the education is always the top priority."

Like Edleson, Liebowitz remained positive that the Commons system could continue to prove valuable for students until additional housing is completed.

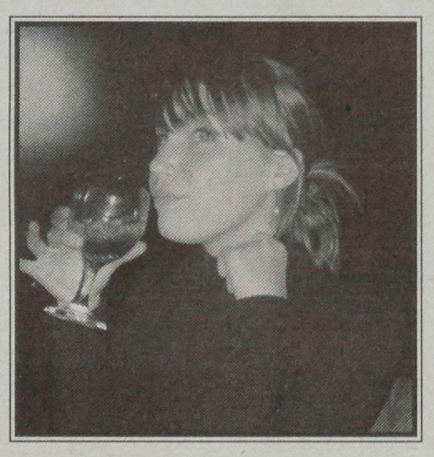
"The strength of the system lies not in the facilities however, either now or when the system is complete," he said, "but rather in the potential for the human relationships that can develop and serve students best in their lives outside the classroom — relationships between and among students who live together, and between students and their commons heads and deans."



scott's
discipline



justine's
happiness



alexxa's
elegance

soon *The Campus* will lack all three
could you be our next legend?

e-mail campus@middlebury.edu to apply for winter/spring staff positions

The Middlebury Campus

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NEWS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING, ASSIGNING AND EDITING NEWS STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST BE AWARE OF CAMPUS NEWS AND HAVE A MIND FOR CREATIVE JOURNALISM.

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING, ASSIGNING AND EDITING LOCAL NEWS STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST BE INTERESTED IN TOWN AND STATE POLITICS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAVE A MIND FOR CREATIVE JOURNALISM.

OPINIONS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR LEADING EDITORIAL DEBATE, DRAFTING WEEKLY STAFF EDITORIAL AND EDITING OPINIONS PIECES, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND EDITORIAL CARTOONS. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST HAVE A KEEN INTEREST IN CAMPUS LIFE AND SHARP EYE FOR CONTROVERSY.

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localnews

6
MCTV: LIVE
PUBLIC ACCESS TELEVISION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

7
SANTA BABY
WHAT GIFTS TO BUY FOR THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE

Going behind the scenes of MCTV

By Kelly Janis
Staff Writer

Tucked on the third floor of Ilsley Public Library lies the studio of Middlebury Community Television (MCTV), a public television station committed to serving the community as a respectable source of information, expression and entertainment. The public access station has broadcasted an eclectic offering of programming to an estimated 1,800 households since 1987.

The station's executive director, Dick Thodal, has plenty on his plate when it comes to negotiating the station's smooth execution.

"I'm sort of a jack of all trades," laughed Thodal. "I have to do a lot of different things to keep the show on the road."

MCTV provides regular coverage of town and school board meetings, church services and major community events. In addition, the station encourages volunteers to produce their own programming using the station's equipment.

"Running a public access station doesn't have a whole lot to do with actually producing video," Thodal said. "It has more to do with making sure people have what they need to produce video."

That programming, according to Thodal, is decidedly diverse. "We don't allow commercial content. But we cover every part of the political spectrum. As a matter of fact, we encourage people who may feel that they're pretty far to one side of an issue to come in and produce programming," he said. "The mainstream media really tends to cover the middle, and people who are on what you may consider one extreme or another don't often get a chance to get their viewpoints out." Thodal said public access television represents the first ammendment in action, and as such has been dubbed "Free Speech TV" and the "Electronic Soapbox." Since Middlebury Community Television is not commercial, it is not hampered by the need to please sponsors. "We don't have a particular agenda as far as programming is concerned. I would say what goes on the air really reflects the concerns and the energy of the people who decide to use our facilities."

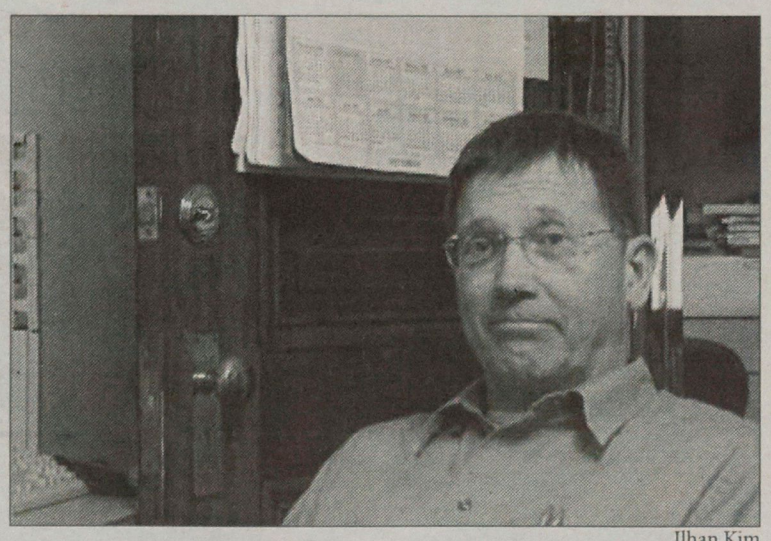
Thodal believes that MCTV's most popular broadcast is its coverage of Select Board meetings. "I've had elderly people tell me that they were so glad that the town meeting was on television," he noted. "I would say that probably the elderly are the biggest single group that we have as viewers because they tend to be interested in town affairs. They may be housebound and have time to watch television, so they seem to appreciate a lot of our programming."

Naturally, MCTV sees its fair share of humorous and quirky broadcasts. "We had a brilliant comedy – a tongue-in-cheek report on alleged UFO abductions in Middlebury. It was very funny. It had all this doctored newspaper footage showing UFOs behind the cheerleaders at a football game."

Anybody can come in here and — if they put in the effort — can learn how to become a decent producer for free, regardless of what the message is.
—Jody Bergedic

Nonetheless, such content hardly defines the station. "That's one of the things I think a lot of people feel that public access is all about, these crazy shows," Thodal said. "In reality, it's a little more low key. I'm thinking of four hour school board meetings, like we had last Tuesday night."

Public access is not famous for being financially lucrative. "The most efficient way for a network to make a buck is by centrally producing programming in New York or Los Angeles or something like that," he explained, "and then trying to get it out to as wide an audience as possible." In this fashion, hooking viewers is a matter of crafting the wildest car chases and greatest shock appeal. "But with local programming, the thing we have that attracts people is that they'll be surfing through and they'll go 'Oh! That's my neighbor!'" For this reason, while public access programming may have a local appeal, it is not likely to resonate with viewers residing at a distance.


Ilhan Kim

Ultimately, Thodal said, "the programming that we put on is the result of people who really want to connect with the community one way or another."

Youth program coordinator Jody Bergedic – who teaches media literacy in local schools and aids individuals in the studio – further attested to MCTV's value. Hands-on experience, she stressed, is the key to gaining proficiency in filmmaking.

"It's like trying to be literate without ever reading. You can't do it," she said. Bergedic has observed that children often brim with misconceptions regarding the time and effort necessary to produce short films. After working on an actual project "they learn to appreciate the craft, and begin to understand that it's a hard thing to do."

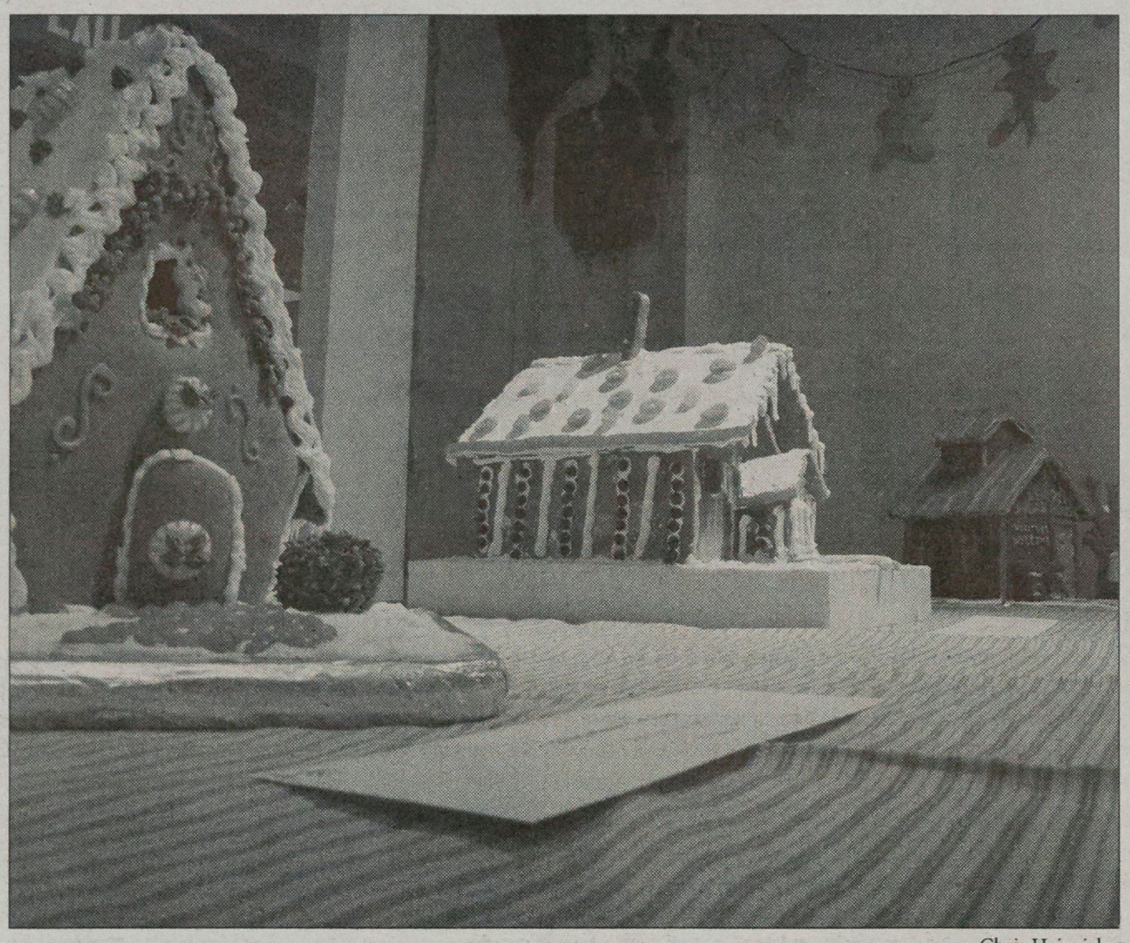
Bergedic observes that many individuals approach the film editing process with the attitude of "'I have a computer. I'm an editor.' God forbid you have a scalpel," she said, "because then you'd be a doctor and I'd really be worried."

Middlebury Community Television, she enthused, is an invaluable resource. "People always say there's no such thing as a free lunch, but there is. Anybody can come in here and – if they put in the effort – can learn how to become a decent producer for free, regardless of what the message is." She said that the lack of censorship and judgement public access offers is crucial in distinguishing it from other venues. "You could say 'I'm an alien from outer space, and that's my mission,' and we'll go 'okay, good job, and we'll teach you how to tell people that message.' You don't get that anywhere else."

If there is any drawback to her work, Bergedic mused that it is the shortage of hours in a day. "I would love to help everybody everywhere in every school in every town, and I just can't."

Middlebury Community Television is eager to extend itself to the College community. "I wish you guys would come down more," Bergedic said. "I haven't figured out yet how to make that happen … but I feel very much like we can have much more interaction than we do. We are available, and we want to work with you."

Gingerbread Architecture

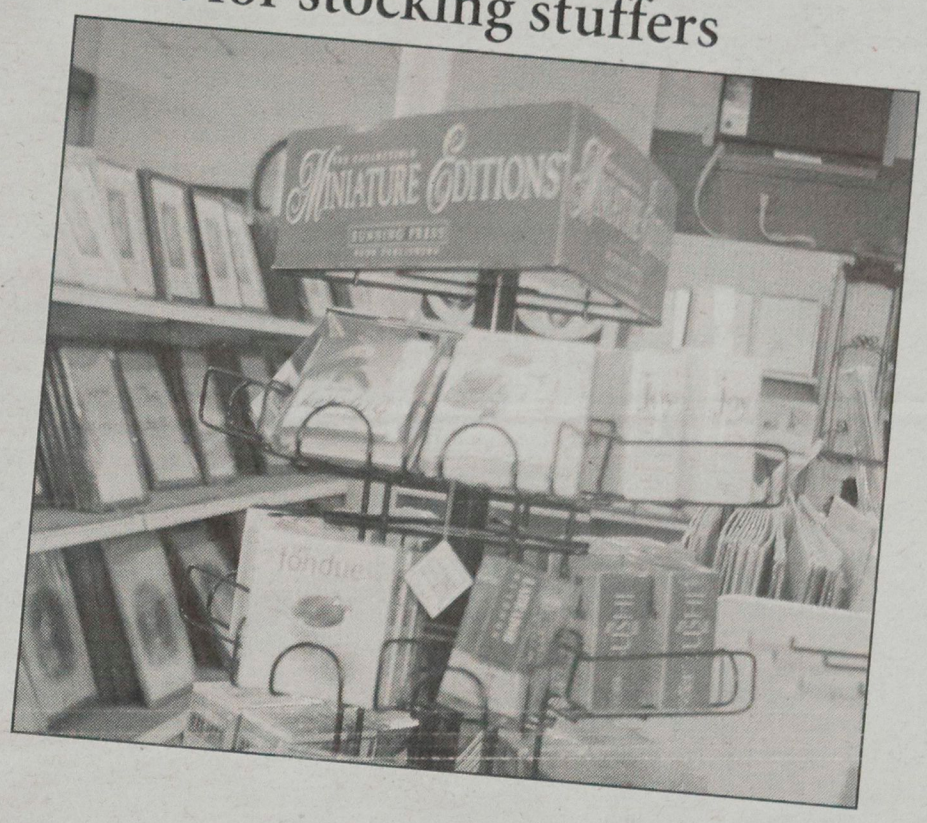

Chris Heinrich

Proving that Middebury likes to get into the Christmas spirit early, the Vermont Folk Center held it's eighth annual Gingerbread House Competition on Friday, Dec. 1. Visitors who missed the opening of the event this past weekend still have a chance to see these tasty and creative hallmarks of the holiday season 'til Dec. 21. All of the entries are on display at the Center's gallery. Hansel and Gretel are not invited.

The go-to guide for holiday shopping in Middlebury

1 Best for Big Spenders

2 Best for stocking stuffers



3 Best for food and wine

4 Best for trendy female apparel

Photos by Ilhan Kim
Guide by Andrea Glaessner

1 The Alpine Shop

Big spenders will find plenty of opportunities to splurge on their loved ones at The Alpine Shop. This outdoors store is stocked with gifts for the skier, boarder, winter-lover or even the winter-hater who just wants to stay toasty. While you can lose the Benjamins pretty quickly here, The Alpine Shop also has accessories such as hats, gloves and scarves that are on the lower end of the price spectrum. And, more than just gifts, it is not too hard to find something for yourself while you're perusing for that special someone.

2 Ben Franklin

After you throw down that wad of cash on your significant other, don't be cheap and forget about your friends. You may not have much money, but it's the thought that counts. Head over to Ben Franklin where you can buy miniature book kits on everything from proper slinky usage — slinky included — to the metrosexual style guide to the little book on rubber duckies. Truly, there is a miniature book kit for everyone. If you are looking for stocking stuffers for younger relatives, Ben Franklin has a huge supply of toys for the little cousins and compact, yet entirely cheesy, ornaments for the older generation. You can even be cheap and buy the 50 percent off Halloween candy.

3 Middlebury Market

It may seem difficult to buy a gift for someone you do not know well, but, in fact, you need only remember one word: food. Everyone loves food. So if you want to buy a little something for your teachers right around finals to show your appreciation— or if you are still under the delusion that you might be able to bribe your professors with high-quality chocolate — go to Middlebury Market and Cafe. The small grocery store and cafe has a lovely gift display featuring chocolates and nostalgic candies like saltwater taffy and chocolate santas. The store also boasts a small but respectable wine collection and even sells wine gift bags to quickly wrap your purchase. Which reminds us of another holiday season no-no.

4 Glass Bead Game

Before you go out to holiday parties, make sure you have something nice to wear. You cannot depend on Mom to put a cute outfit under the tree — the risk that she gives you a tragically unattractive reindeer sweater is just too great. Besides, most holiday parties are before Christmas anyway. Check out Glass Bead Game for a new pair of jeans or a nice new top. If you do not find anything for yourself, your 13 year-old sister would be ecstatic to receive a ribbon belt or some fake eyelashes or a mini-skirt made of wool with pom-poms on it. The clothing is trendy, and definitely on the expensive side, but if you have money to burn and no time to figure out what's in style right now, the Glass Bead Game might be a good place to start.

Deck your door with a charity auction wreath

By Dina Magaril
Local News Editor

In the spirit of holiday giving, the Mary Johnson Center held a silent wreath auction at Middlebury's Center for the Arts. Addison County community members and local establishments were asked to decorate wreaths using merchandise from their stores so that the wreaths could be auctioned off on Dec. 2 to benefit the children that the Mary Johnson Center serves.

This year's event marked the auction's 15th year since its beginnings as a small auction of twenty wreaths at Middlebury Union High School's cafeteria. The auction evolved from a "Festival of Trees" fundraiser in Princeton, New Jersey. inspired the Middlebury auctioneers.

"The [wreath auction] is a Middlebury-scale version of the N.J. fundraiser," joked Barbara Saunders, the co-director at the Mary Johnson Center.

Saturday's event showcased over 125 unique wreaths, each hand decorated by local merchants and artisans, as well as some eager amateurs hoping to dabble in a little Christmas decorating. Wreaths were delivered to the decorators, who were then given artistic license to adorn the wreaths however and with whatever they wanted.

One artist chose to forgo a little bit of the Christmas spirit in lieu of a little baseball fanaticism. Another, a local art teacher, adorned her wreath with an array of Boston Red Sox paraphenalia. Her wreath proudly displayed a Red Sox bottle opener that came with a verbal recording of an announcement of the team hitting a home run, as well as T-shirts and hats displaying the team's logo. As a final touch and reminder that this was a Christmas wreath as well as a dedication to the artist's favorite team, the wreath was topped off with two red socks hanging down from its center.

The decorating team at the UPS store created a particularly interesting wreath that wholly embodied the spirit of their postal store.

"They put their wreath in a box and hung it up with all these packaging materials inside," said Saunders.

An array of local establishments participated in the wreath decorating, including the Rainbow Room, the Sheldon Museum, Belladona, the Alpine Shop and even various massage therapists from town. The Belladona shop used merchandise from their store, including pinecones and evergreen, to decorate their wreaths. Andrea Solomon, the festival's coordinator, thought Belladonna's use of their own materials for their wreath added "a classy and beautiful touch."

Yet another local artist arranged over thirty hand painted gourds throughout her wreath, making her donation particularly memorable.

The wreaths were auctioned off starting at $25, with some going as high as $250. "It got really exciting towards the end when all the vendors saw their items being bid on," said Solomon, adding that the event was "an overwhelming success." When asked if she could pick out her favorite wreath Solomon said, "there were so many good ones that it's hard to say that any one would be better than the others."

Aside from local volunteers and community members who came out to show their support, over thirty Middlebury students who participate in work-study at the Mary Johnson Center helped with the planning of the auction. "[The students' help] was invaluable," said Solomon.

The event culminated with a raffle to win prizes that were donated by local establishments. Geiger of Austria donated a jacket, while the Vermont Coffee Company and Vermont's Own donated gift baskets with merchandise from their respective stores. One anonymous donor provided a happy raffle winner with an American Girl doll.

In addition to lending a hand to a worthy cause, the event also marked the unofficial start of the holiday season in Addison County. "It's a great community event where you get to see your neighbors and look at some of the great wreaths they made, while enjoying some cider and cookies," said Saunders. Though an official count has not yet been made, Solomon predicts that the auction raised several thousand dollars. The money will go towards event programming such as ice skating outings, art supplies and Tae Kwon Do lessons at the Mary Johnson Center – programming that wil l further advance the center's mission to provide supportive programs for children who come from families who need to work outside of the home, particularly for single mothers with children.

Nirvana Bhatia

Little Italy in Middlebury? You heard right

By Rachel R Schiffer
Staff Writer

Who would've thought that our little town of Middlebury was big enough to have a Little Italy? Any doubts you harbor will be gone when you walk into Depasquale's Delicatessen and get a whiff of the savory Italian cold cuts and lingering aromas of Parmesan and sharp provolone cheeses.

Propped outside the door, a dry erase board filled top to the bottom with the day's specials lured me inside. I felt like a fish being lured by bait, which was fitting because this Italian take -out deli is also a fish and seafood market and offers homemade prepared and frozen Italian and seafood dishes. When I walked inside, the lobster den had a few little guys crawling around the case. Although they were only small chicken lobsters, the prepared and deshelled tails in the deli case looked succulent and firm. A nice selection of fresh shrimp, scallops, squid and clams sat alongside a few varieties of fish and filled the remainder of the seafood case. The case was clean and there was no fishy smell, a sign of true freshness. In fact, Depasquale's receives daily deliveries from Boston and Maine.

As I strolled down the narrow aisle only one thing struck me as being terribly out of place. Sitting amidst a wonderful collection of imported Italian olives, sun dried tomatoes and pasta was a shelf of soy sauce, wasabi and nori. I understand that fresh fish includes sushi, but I felt the presence of Japanese products revealed a bit of an Italian sellout. The beverage case, on the other hand, did not disappoint me. For a seltzer and bubbly water addict, having to choose between plain, orange and lemon sparkling sodas was a fun dilemma.

I turned to face the kitchen, which is separated from the store by the line for hot food. The pulled chicken in red sauce looked great for a cold day's lunch with a hunk of Italian bread, but I was disappointed to hear the red sauce was Southern BBQ, not Marinara. As I considered changing my order, I was assured the homemade sauce wouldn't disappoint me. He did not steer me wrong. It was good. The sauce was sweet and smoky and the meat was soft and tender. The sturdiness of the bread's crust and it's chewy inside made for a good scoop that didn't mask the flavor or texture of the chicken. When asked if the recipe was his, the employee smiled, saying, "I don't bring anything to the table but old age." But while he may not add to the tastes of Depasquale's, he certainly adds to the flavor of the place.

More in line with the owner's Sicilian heritage and also on the hot line was a batch of all beef meatballs stewing in their chunky, tomato sauce. They were hearty and heavy and I could taste hints of Parmesan cheese and oregano, which rounded out the beef. Sweet Italian sausages with peppers and onions were simmering in a smooth, red gravy which the store's owner, Mark Reardon, calls "Mom's Sauce." Reardon has been in Middlebury for 16 years now and Depasquale was his grandfather's name.

White board menus were hung all over the delicatessen, assuring customers that its daily pickings were linked to the catch of the day and available fresh ingredients. One posted fish specials, another sides and yet another was dedicated to "College student favorites." It boasted a list of subs with creative, if cliché, names like "Rocky's Favorite" and the "Italian Stallion." All included different combinations of Italian hard salami, capocollo and prosciutto hams and Provolone cheese with shredded lettuce and sliced tomatoes, topped with a drizzle of Italian-seasoned oil.

My partners in dining opted for the seafood. Fish and chips were dredged and fried to order and served perfectly golden brown, flaky and light. The breading was well seasoned, if a bit salty, but it was not oily, meaning the fryer was hot enough when the fish went in. A cup of New England clam chowder was not all that creamy but the thick broth was chock full of potatoes and clams and had intense clam flavor and a nice hint of black pepper and lemon.

Sitting atop a single leaf of lettuce, the seafood salad was laden with crabmeat, shrimp and lobster. Though it looked heavy on the mayo it wasn't overly creamy, nor was it over seasoned. The full flavors of seafood remained afloat and spread through one's mouth like waves up the beach. The pasta salad side was typical as far as pasta salads go, but it was fresh and did not taste like it sat in a picnic basket all day.

At the end of lunch I was satisfied, but I felt like I was still missing Italy. With so many menu options, I had visited Little Italy without having fully tasted it. A final sip of my lemon San Pelligrino partially did the trick, but I what I really needed was a bite of Italian sub. But that's ok because I'm planning another bargain trip to (Middlebury's) Italy in the near future. Only, next time I'll be sure to keep the ordering Italian.

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Local Weather Middlebury	36 / 19	25 / 22	37 / 31	41 / 33	44 / 28
Around the Globe Roswell, New Mexico — Home to the alledged alien crash site of 1947, 'Roswell' was also a popular hit tv show based on the same event	62 / 27	53 / 24	55 / 26	58 / 30	61 / 33

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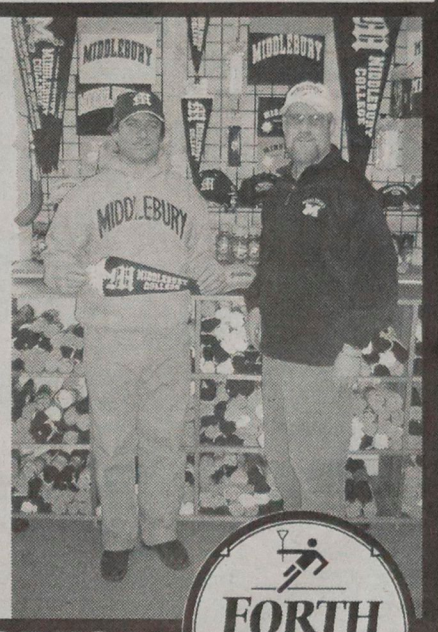

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opinions

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Editorials

Time to say goodbye, old friend

It is time to shut down Proctor Dining Hall for renovations. We do not mean small changes around the edges, and we do not mean just for a weekend or two — the improvements need to be swift and far-reaching to ensure that the facility can survive well into Middlebury's future.

But don't run for your wrecking balls just yet. Some ground rules need to be laid out first.

The fact is that everyone, even the most love-blind Proctor devotee, knows that the building is far from perfect. The vast distance between the kitchen and cafeteria, which are on completely separate floors of the building, means that food arrives late, cold and literally delivered via an elevator. While the dining hall's flagship specialty is the four-machine, central panini bar, the current arrangement is a makeshift solution.

But Proctor is a collection of inconveniences and inefficiencies to which we have become endeared over time. You pick your friends, you pick your college, but you don't pick your Proctor. So we've learned to love it all.

The dining hall's heavy, bulky furniture might make it difficult to rearrange, but it also makes it feel more permanent and homey than the cold, metal and plastic patio furniture of Atwater. The odd layout of the building may seem nonsensical at first, but it makes the facility more manageably compartmentalized, once you know your way around.

Every dining hall has its trademark flaws: The Ross arrangement makes each entrance an awkward runway walk of grand proportions. The Atwater design echoes and amplifies conversations, setting a bottom-line level of shouting for all communication. And from today's perspective, no one will ever understand who thought the moldy, subterranean Freeman-Hamlin-Cook complex was a good idea.

But in the case of Proctor, the things we hate about it only strengthen the bond. There is a sense of loyalty to the imperfect dining hall that was there for us when we were scared, lonely first-years. So we say, "Leave him alone! You are mean, Old Chapel!" But is what we're doing really in Proctor's best interest?

There is a clear need for renovating Proctor, we only question whether anyone who thinks Ross or Atwater are successful designs, should ever lay their fingers on our dear old friend. So planning for a redesigned Proctor should be led by passionate students who appreciate the facility's odd charm, alongside current Proctor employees who can list its weaknesses.

The project could be a golden opportunity for students to become deeply involved in a major campus improvement, in creative new ways. Students could be called on to submit dream-plans for their ideal Proctor. Or elections could be held for students who want to represent their peers to potential architects, with different Proctor platforms laid out. Or a sociology class could be called in to analyze the Proctor loyalists and what makes them, and their beloved cafeteria, tick. Bottom line is, if anyone wants to touch Proctor, they need to do it with the same creativity and passion that students have taken in loving — and sometimes hating — it themselves.

This also means students need to stop shutting out the possibility for improvement. If we love Proctor as much as we claim to, we should be so selfless as to briefly part with the building and fully commit to making it even better. We advocate the closing of Proctor so that our children, and hopefully a few classes before them, will see a brighter day for our old friend of a dining hall. The design must be well-planned, the construction must be meticulous and students must be in charge, every step of the way.

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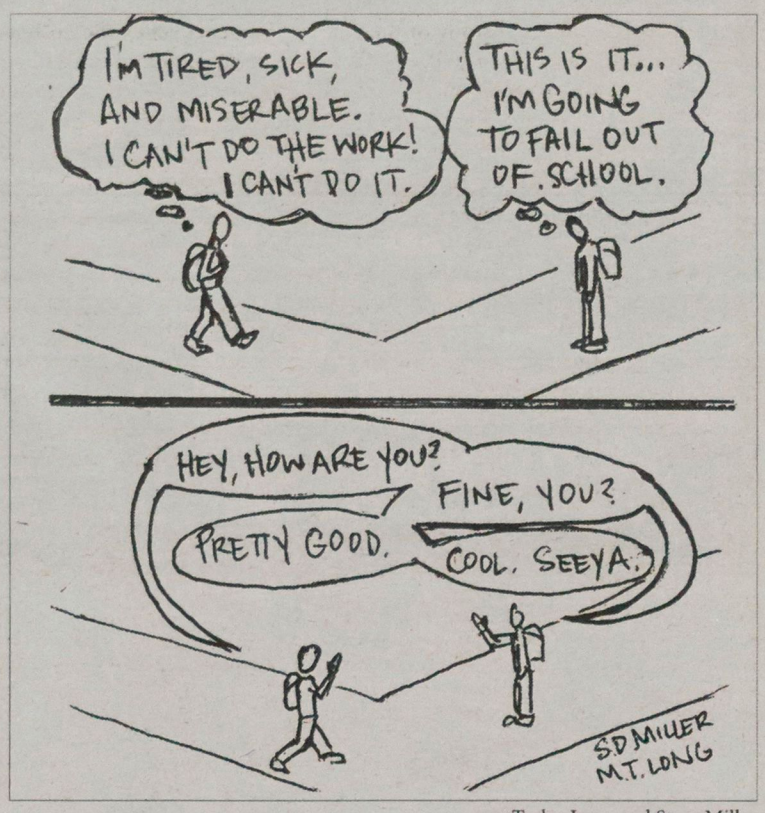
> "THE RENOVATIONS DON'T MATTER, SO LONG AS THERE CONTINUES TO BE STRANGELY FLAVORED CHICKEN BREAST EVERY NIGHT, AND LOTS OF PILAF."
>
> — MATT VAUGHAN '09 ON POSSIBLE PROCTOR RENNOVATIONS


I'M TIRED, SICK, AND MISERABLE. I CAN'T DO THE WORK! I CAN'T DO IT.
THIS IS IT... I'M GOING TO FAIL OUT OF SCHOOL.
HEY, HOW ARE YOU?
PRETTY GOOD.
FINE, YOU?
COOL. SEEYA.
SD MILLER
M.T. LONG

Taylor Long and Steve Miller

Letters to the Editor

Withdrawing from Iraq

To the Editor:

The time to begin withdrawing our troops from Iraq is now. Others have offered different opinions, such as Congressman Charles Rangel's request for a draft. However, this does nothing for our military and it defeats the professional nature of its purpose to be free of conscripts.

In the same vein, John McCain's call for more troops appears to be more posturing for his '08 run. While I don't believe in a timetable per se, as that only emboldens the insurgents, I believe that the time has come to begin a drawdown of our soldiers. It might be painful, but I have come to believe that the alternative will be worse in the long run for the interests of the U.S. The U.S. has lost its direction; it has stopped fighting to win and is now fighting a political war, similar to the catastrophe that befell the U.S. in Vietnam.

The Iraqis have decided to hitch their star to the theocracy in Iran, and the Malaki Government has continued to support Muqtada al Sadr and his death squads.

The government has gone so far as to interfere with military operations and engagements. As a result, it has put U.S. soldiers in harms way.

It is up to the Iraqis to decide if they want to fight for freedom for themselves. Our support to prop up the Iraqi military is doomed to fail if the Iraqis can't fight for themselves. The time is right to cut bait and live to fight another day if needed.

Sincerely,
Steve Gordon '08
Allentown, Penn.

Respectable cheering

To the Editor:

I would like to pick up the theme of the letter by Tim Hollander '65 that was printed in last week's *Campus* regarding the idiotic chant at hockey games, especially directed at the opposing goalies, of "You suck!" As a fan of both men's *and* women's ice hockey, I would like to point out the effect college cheers have on younger fans.

At the home opener Midd-Conn. College women's hockey game on Dec. 1, a very young and very enthusiastic fan waved and sang out the marvelous "HMMM-MMMMMMMM-See Ya!" cheer as a Connecticut player made her way to the penalty box. The positive vibrations caused by his cheer warmed the cockles of this fan's heart, and I noticed that his mother was smiling, too. I doubt we would have been amused had he used that other cheer, and in fact, I suspect his dad would have had something to say about it, too. Grow up and act your education.

Sincerely,
Ann LaFiandra '73
Middlebury, Vt.

Professorship supports college

To the Editor:

A letter signed by more than 30 faculty members refers to "documented patterns of hostility Justice Rehnquist demonstrated toward historically underrepresented groups." That is a serious charge against the former Chief Justice, who served on the Court for 33 years and as its leader for 19 years.

I am not trained in constitu-

SEE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, PAGE 12

Your opinion, but my life affected

I find it profoundly ironic that those of us who object to the Rehnquist chair are painted as intolerant of diversity. One alum wrote and suggested that while he might disapprove, he would not protest should I name a chair to honor an equivalent liberal (he suggested Martin Luther King or Ted Kennedy). My response is that I would accept the challenge if he could find a liberal figure who ruled that being conservative should be a felony, whose rulings were used to deny conservatives custody of their children or deny them jobs or the right to sleep with their wives.

But to charge us with silencing our opposition is absurd on its face. For one thing, not one of my colleagues has suggested that conservative faculty, students or alumni should have no right to speak. Feel free to support honoring Rehnquist! After all, it is you who have the full support of the administration, which orchestrated a widely-reported visit to roll out the chair. Parents and alums have applauded the chair. This hardly constitutes a silencing of conservative voices. I realize that my own opinions and values are not those of the whole Middlebury community. As a community, though, we did adopt a nondiscrimination clause that includes sexual orientation. Rehnquist's opinion in Bowers v. Hardwick and his dissent in Lawrence v. Texas directly contradict those values. He joined an opinion in Romer v. Evans that endorsed singling out homosexuals and denying them protection as a class.

Students cite the ostensibly apolitical opinion in Bowers, which indeed holds (with a gratuitous condescending sneer) that to claim a right to sodomy "'implicit in the concept of ordered liberty' is, at best, facetious." But in 2003 a majority of justices (but not Rehnquist) found precisely that right: "individual decisions concerning the intimacies of physical relationships, even when not intended to produce offspring, are a form of 'liberty' protected by due process."

If there are any lingering doubts about Rehnquist's motivations in denying gay rights, while his equally learned colleagues found constitutional grounds to grant them, I would point to Ratchford v. Gay Lib, in which Rehnquist's dissent

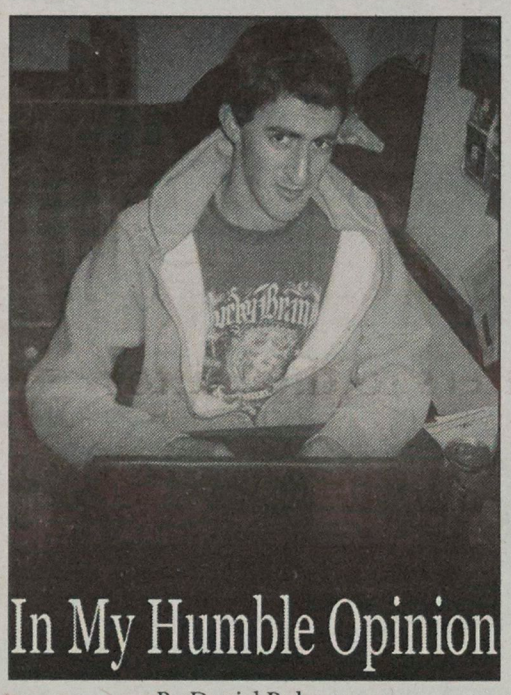
I am not intolerant of these opinions: these opinions are intolerant of me.

justifies a university's right to ban a gay group from campus, drawing an analogy to quarantining students with measles: meetings of homosexuals at the university may be dangerous, he writes, and "this danger may be particularly acute in the university setting where many students are still coping with the sexual problems which accompany late adolescence and early adulthood…" "Measles," "danger" – Rehnquist's words. Are these the views that are shared by our conservative students?

I am not intolerant of these opinions: these opinions are intolerant of me. The clash of views is all very good and well, and certainly academic discussion of all kinds of views, hateful or benign, belongs in a college community. But when those opinions impinge on my liberty in even such a trivial matter as, say, having sex with my partner or my right to marry, then, yes, I may react. The repercussions of the Bowers decision before it was rightly overturned were far-reaching: not only were homosexuals made felons, but homosexuals were denied jobs for being potential felons. Children were taken away from lesbian mothers and gay student organizations were denied.

I defend the right of supporters of such injustices to speak, but I object to Middlebury honoring Rehnquist with a chair and associating his name with the college to which I have devoted over 20 years. I object because I want Middlebury to be a better place.

KEVIN MOSS
PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE



Cashing in on tragedy

By Daniel Roberts
OPINION COLUMNIST

I have two magazine subscriptions at school, and when I see that folded tube in my mailbox, boy do I get excited. It means yet another chance to put off my schoolwork.

The magazines I get are *GQ* (yeah, I know) and *Entertainment Weekly* (for the movie reviews). Both publications recently reviewed "Death of a President" ("DoaP"), a faux documentary about the assassination of George W. Bush. The two critiques were completely polarized, and in this case I agreed more with what *GQ* wrote — that the film is offensive and inappropriate.

The film, which manipulates actual footage of Bush to show him being shot, implies that killing Bush would be an admirable pursuit. Talk about a lack of patriotism. The film's makers seem to expect that audiences will be entertained by the on-screen murder of Dubya. This makes me feel sick.

Call me old-fashioned, but Bush is our nation's leader, and no matter how much of a joke he is, I find something inherently wrong about a film that would not so subtly hope for his untimely death.

Becoming frustrated over "DoaP" and its subject matter reminded me of two current releases that are far more aggravating to me. I am referring to the two films released this year about 9/11.

The big question surrounding these movies was, "Is America ready yet?" There was much debate on the issue. Some felt that it was still too soon, while others retorted that if it was tastefully done, then it could be acceptable. Since this is my column, and they don't pay me the big bucks to sit on the fence (actually they don't pay me at all), I'll tell you what I think: It is too soon.

Some background info: The movie "United 93" focused on the hijacked plane that did not reach its intended target, thanks to the efforts of civilians on board. The pair's bigger blockbuster, "World Trade Center" ("WTC"), features Nicolas Cage as one of two heroic cops who rushed into the towers.

My claim is not that these films are distasteful. In fact, *Entertainment Weekly* called "WTC" "scrupulous and honorable," and praised "United 93's" realism, "Each hijacker is a man with a temperament and religious conviction, not a cartoon monster."

Great. But something still feels too creepy about it for me. One message board for "WTC" features complaints about the lack of exciting action shots. This expectation for sensationalized scenes shows that audiences are not yet mature enough to handle these films. Clearly, audience response is just as crucial as creative intention. No matter how nice their goals were, these movies turn a very fresh wound into a Hollywood spectacle of popcorn entertainment.

Do you remember the movie "Pearl Harbor?" It was only loosely about the attack, focusing instead on a heinous love triangle between Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett and (mmm) Kate Beckinsale. The high place this trash earned on my "Worst Movies I've Ever Seen" list is beside the point. What matters is that it came out sixty years after the catastrophe that inspired it. Sixty years! These 9/11 movies began filming a mere four years after the tragedy.

Perhaps what makes me so uncomfortable is that I can still recall exactly where I stood, what I was thinking and how my heart felt when these events took place.

I bet survivors of the 1912 Titanic wreck would have been equally offended if, in 1917, a movie had been made about the crisis. Charlie Chaplin would have played the Leo DiCaprio role, lip-synching, "I'm the king of the world!" (Movies were silent back then, duh).

The movies are already out. The damage is done. My little rant in a small college newspaper will not affect the producers in Hollywood. All I can do is declare that, for what it's worth, I think Hollywood really could have waited a few more years before capitalizing on the disaster of 9/11. That's just how I feel. Now insert witty, comforting one-liner here.

NOTES
FROM THE DESK

There are some experiences in life that are best left unexperienced. One of which includes being arrested and spending 24 hours in jail with a homeless, bipolar, convicted felon.

This past Thanksgiving, my sister and I had the rare opportunity of being incarcerated in the NYPD Sixth Precinct. In a miscalculated attempt to warm ourselves from the extreme weather, my sister and I found ourselves handcuffed and escorted in the back of a police van to the nearby police station. The charges were disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and obstruction of justice. Needless to say, my sister and I are innocent until proven guilty.

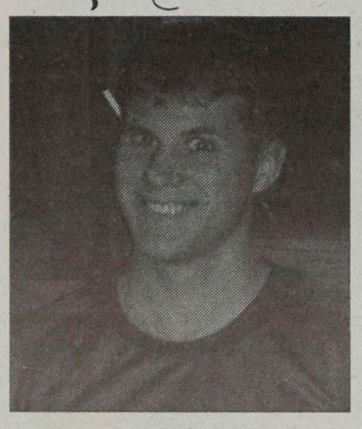
I tell you all this not to boast or bask in pity and shame, but because of a man named John Chetuck. If you haven't guessed, the man was my cellmate. John was a good man who's been to jail more times than I've had birthdays. He's currently looking at 1-7 years for domestic violence. Yes, his wife is homeless too. But beyond his misdeeds, John was a man who made you scratch your head and wonder how he ended up like this. The guy was educated, intelligent, had an affinity for indigenous cultures and a great sense of humor that made my hours pass by without a glitch. He was an unlucky guy. His two sons, aged 14 and 3 months, died in a car accident along with his first wife two years ago. Of course, I have to take all this with a grain of salt, but the guy seemed genuine. In some ways, I'm glad I had an experienced jailbird to walk me through the judicial process, rather than another juvenile delinquent who would've left me anxious.

The only thing John asked of me before I left was for me to write him. I wasn't too interested in having a penpal, but something about the way he asked me made me promise I would. I don't know if he ended up in "The Tombs" on the top floors of Central Booking, or somewhere on Rikers Island, but I'll find him somehow and give him a book to read for Christmas.

The moral of the story, if there needs to be one, is that this holiday season, let's not forget about those who were shafted by unfortunate family situations or other marginalizing forces of society. Whether you visit your local homeless shelter or prison, be sure to do something to make someone else's life a little better. As for me, I'll be visiting John.

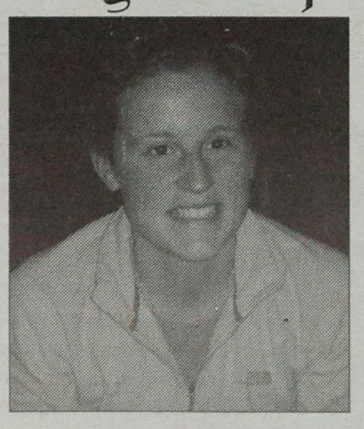
— ILHAN KIM
PHOTO EDITOR

The Middlebury Campus weekly poll



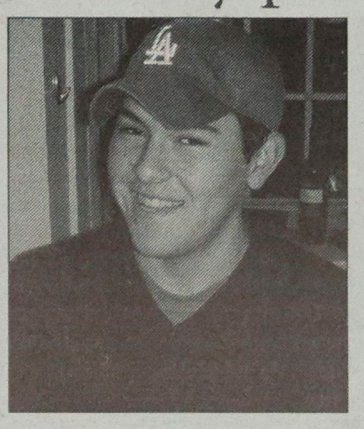
"I THINK IT'S PRETTY GOOD THE WAY IT IS. WHAT WE SHOULD REALLY WORRY ABOUT IS PARKING"

— DOUG HALE '07



"MIDDLEBURY IS ALREADY PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY. WE SHOULD MAKE IT MORE CAR FRIENDLY."

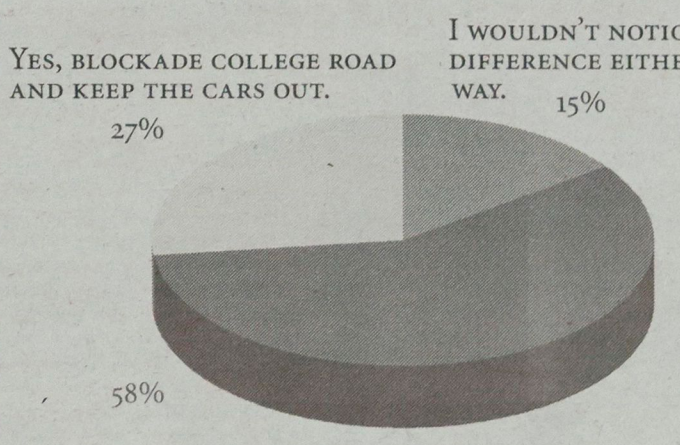
— CAITLIN TAYLOR '08.5



"IT COULD BE GOOD, ESPECIALLY IF THEY PUT IN SOME UNDERGROUND TUNNELS."

— KENNETH LAZO '09

DO YOU THINK MIDDLEBURY SHOULD BE A MORE PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY CAMPUS?



NO, MIDDLEBURY IS ALREADY PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY.

Results taken from online poll: http://www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: WHAT SHOULD MIDDLEBURY DO ABOUT THE DETERIORATING STATE OF PROCTOR?

Letters to the Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

tional law, but a review of a few of the supporting opinions written by, or endorsed by, Justice Rehnquist suggests that reason grounded in constitutional arguments (not hostility) was the basis for his rulings. My own political views would differ from those of the Chief Justice, but that is beside the point. In a nation that strives to follow "the rule of law," one's political views are not the primary determinant of judicial outcomes. Chief Justice Roberts noted in his recent visit to Middlebury that a Supreme Court Justice is obligated to issue rulings, grounded in the interpretation of laws and the constitution, that sometimes collide with one's personal views.

A web search reveals that such experts in judicial matters as Harvard Law Professor Laurence Tribe and Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy have expressed their admiration for Rehnquist's leadership and integrity. I urge that we make distinctions between where one's views fall on the political spectrum, and one's competence and integrity in carrying out the responsibilities with which he or she is charged.

I am optimistic that the appointment of Jim Ralph to the Rehnquist Professorship in American History and Culture at Middlebury bodes well for our Faculty and for the education of future generations of Middlebury College students.

Sincerely,
John Emerson
Charles A. Dana Professor of Mathematics,
Secretary of the College

Professorship shows diversity

To the Editor:

I have become aware of a controversy at Middlebury concerning the naming of a chair after former Chief Justice William Rehnquist. As a former law clerk to then Justice Rehnquist, as well as an alumnus of the Middlebury Language Institute, I wanted to weigh in on this issue. I should add that though I clerked for Rehnquist, I usually opposed his positions, as illustrated by my chapter in the book, *The Rehnquist Legacy*, which I organized and edited. Nevertheless, I considered the Chief Justice a wonderful person and a good friend. He was, undoubtedly, a political conservative. However, his opposition to the creation, or expansion, of constitutional rights by the federal courts was not a simple manifestation of conservative values. Rather it reflected a belief that the democratically elected branches of the government should make such decisions, not the unelected federal courts. I am confident that Rehnquist did not, for example, oppose abortion when such a right was enacted by a state legislature.

Any educational institution that believes in "diversity" should recognize that this is a highly respectable position among legal scholars, even though it may differ from one's own. The rejection of a chair in the name of the Chief Justice would hold Middlebury College out to the world as a place that is intolerant of diverse points of view.

Sincerely,
Craig M. Bradley
Calamaras Professor of Law,
Indiana University School of Law
in Bloomington

No price tag on my voice

To the Editor:

In last week's "Letters to the Editor," Kathleen Duquette, a parent of a Middlebury student, spoke of the need for a conservative voice on campus. Quite frankly, it does get a little boring around here when we all agree to agree. Ms. Duquette correctly stated that "all voices have a right to be heard and respected." That said, I really wish that she had stopped writing there.

Ms. Duquette concluded her letter by writing, "What they [the students who oppose the Rehnquist professorship] need to do is grow-up and get a job that allows them to give back to the school and demand a professorship of their choice!" This is a statement with which I cannot agree. If growing up means that I have to adopt conservative view points, count me out! I will never oppose gay marriage, equal rights, freedom of religion and speech, privacy, abortion, health care and higher education for all, and sound environmental practices in favor of growing up. To suggest to the students of Middlebury College that liberal view points are somehow immature is irresponsible.

Moreover, I object to her insinuation that only those students who seek out and gain lucrative salaries will ever truly give back to and have a voice at Middlebury College. Apparently, it seems that not all voices have a right to be heard and respected, only those which emerge from the mouth of someone with a large bank account. My sensibilities, however liberal they may be, need not be attached to a $2.5 million price tag to merit their expression.

Sincerely,
Sarah McGowen '08
Windham, Maine

A solution for the real issue

The election is over and the American people have spoken, resulting in one of the biggest shifts in political power in recent history. Voters went to the polls motivated by many issues, the biggest of which was not Iraq, the economy or gay marriage, but corruption.

According to surveys conducted by the Associated Press and the television networks, "Three-fourths of voters said corruption and scandals were very or extremely important to them." As a result, the Democrats have vowed to "break the link between lobbyists and legislation." But too much finger pointing directed at the lobbying industry won't result in change.

The Democrats are claiming to be the party that will bring civility and ethics back to Washington, but neither party can live up to such bold declarations when the very system that puts them in power relies on their ability to raise exorbitant amounts of private money from the special interests and big businesses these "unethical" lobbyists represent.

Running for political office is an expensive, privately-funded venture, and the price tags on campaigns continue to rise with each election cycle. According to www.opensecrets.org an estimated 2.6 to 2.8 billion dollars was spent in this mid-term election alone, making it the most expensive mid-term election in US history.

Therefore it should come as no surprise to those of us who are frustrated with corruption that the lobbyists and the big money special interest groups that many politicians represent, wield excessive influence over the political process and are in turn corroding the principles of our democracy.

In order to address this issue of corruption, we as voters must demand that our elected officials listen to our needs as their constituents to the interests of those who funded their campaigns. We must also provide an alternative to our current campaign system that, if not changed, will only continue to put our elected officials in compromised, corruptible situations. The real solution is full public financing of campaigns.

In this system, also known as "clean elections," individuals who are able to demonstrate broad popular support by raising a large number of small, five dollar donations, would qualify to receive full public financing for their campaigns. Once they start

An estimated 2.6 to 2.8 billion dollars was spent in this mid-term election alone.

receiving public funds they are then referred to as "clean candidates," and are not allowed to use or raise any private funds, freeing them from having to make any legislative promises in exchange for large campaign contributions. Therefore, the only people they are accountable to in office are their constituents, the way it's supposed to be.

Clean elections have already been successfully implemented at the state and local level in Maine, Arizona, North Carolina, Connecticut, New Mexico and Vermont, and have restored these voters' faith in their government. To implement clean elections at the federal level for all congressional and presidential campaigns, it would only cost six dollars per citizen per year (see www.just6dollars.org) and that's a small price to pay to secure real representation and equality in our democracy.

You can be part of the solution by helping to get private money out of politics and by helping to put the voter's voices back in. You will also be contributing to the fastest growing youth movement in the country. The Democracy Matters Institute (www.democracymatters.org) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that coordinates campaigns on over seventy college campuses and communities across the country, working to build popular support for, and put pressure on, elected officials to implement pro-democracy reforms, especially clean elections at the state and federal level.

You can make immediate progress by writing a letter to your new and re-elected officials. This letter should remind these politicians that they represent the voters, not the money, and insist they support clean election reform because it will create more choices for voters and politicians, a more equitable and accountable campaign system, and a stronger, healthier democracy.

If you would like to start a Democracy Matters chapter on the Middlebury campus and pursue a paid internship opportunity, please contact Daryn Cambridge, Regional Field Organizer, at darync@democracymatters.org.

DARYN CAMBRIDGE '03
REGIONAL FIELD COORDINATOR
DEMOCRACY MATTERS INSTITUTE

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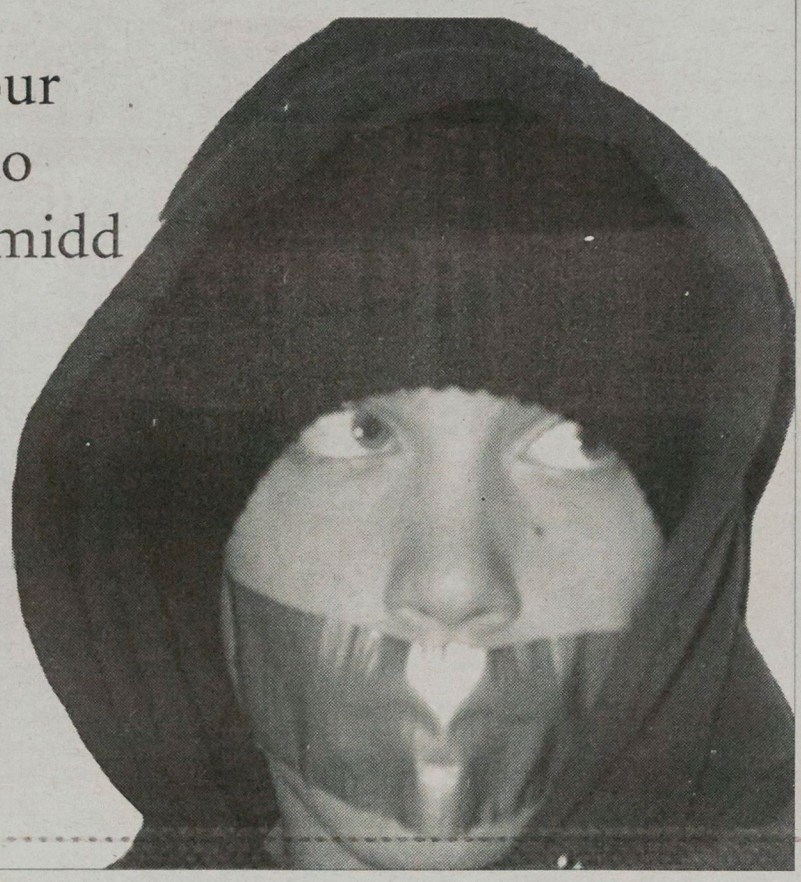

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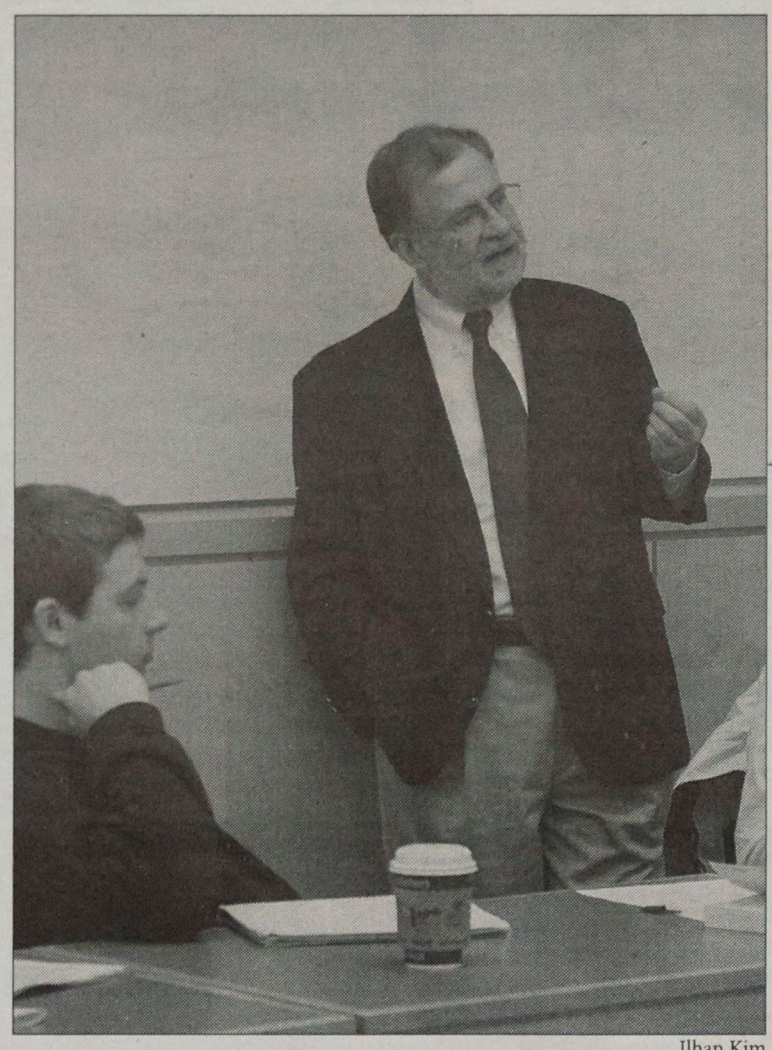


Ilhan Kim

Upon retirement, Prof. Davis will leave a significant mark on Middlebury.

Davis reflects upon influential career

By Joseph Bergan & Aylie Baker
Features Editors

Secretary of the College Emeritus and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis still remembers his first class, Intro to American Politics: "It was 8:15 in the morning," says Davis, "it seems they always give those to the new professors."

Davis has served the College for 26 and a half years, and today his final class comes to a close, ending the tenure of one of Middlebury's most influential figures of the past quarter century.

When his class ends in Library conference room 230, Middlebury will say goodbye to a man that has spent his career creating, administrating and nurturing the present environment of the College.

Davis' office, on the second floor of Gamiliel Painter Hall in downtown Middlebury, highlights his position as one of the College's premier professors, adminstrators and personalities. Shelves full of history books line the walls, as do numerous pictures — pieces of memory that he has accumulated throughout his career.

After completing graduate school at Stanford and teaching at the University of California at Berkeley, Davis arrived at the College in the fall of 1980. The choice was not a difficult one.

"Since I was from New England, this is where I wanted to go" he says.

Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry remembers Davis from the first moment they met. The two shared a strong bond as friends and as colleagues. Dry recalls those first weeks fondly.

"I took Eric to a local furniture store and within 30 minutes he had equipped his entire apartment," says Dry. But Davis was more than an efficient interior designer. Friends and colleagues agree that he forever changed the political science department from his very first moments on campus.

"From the moment he got

See Friends, page 17

Three students to sleep in Library for a week

By Astri von Arbin Ahlander
Staff Writer

The New Library is about to take on a whole new meaning, at least for Tommy Heitkamp '06.5, John Kruchoski '06.5 and Nathaan Demers '08.5. For these three gentlemen, the spaceship on the hill is about to become home. As part of what Heitkamp and Kruchoski have appropriately named "The Library Challenge," the three contenders are taking a pledge most Middlebury students only have nightmares about: they are going to live in the library. For real.

On Sunday, Dec. 10, the three students will move in with overnight bags, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, pillows and a large dose of mental preparation for what is likely to become every bit the challenge the name implies. Their new address will be the Kolligian thesis carrel suite, a.k.a. Challenge Headquarters. The project itself is the brainchild of the Kolligian suite. It was there that Heitkamp and Kruchoski, both thesis-writing seniors, first shook hands on the deal after long discussions with fellow carrel-mates on the best possible approaches to maximize finals week productivity.

"The goal is to be as productive as possible…but I'm kind of worried it might decrease productivity," Kruchoski said. For that reason Heitkamp, whose thesis is due at the end of the semester, has given himself three "safe days." "If all goes to hell, then at least I'll have three days after the end of the challenge before my thesis is due." Seems pretty risky.

Kruchoski shrugged, "It's a new way to experience finals week."

"Come on," Heitkamp winked, "haven't you always wanted to do it?"

While living in the library may seem like every Middkid's nightmare, there is an element of intrigue. After all, finals week is a time when normal routines are completely turned upside down. Students are encouraged to develop unhealthy habits, like eating fried food in the middle of the night at Midnight Breakfast and pulling all-nighters in a library that's open 24/7. A couple of days into the week, the library looks more like a home for the mentally unstable than the flagship facility of an elite academic institution: food-stained sweatsuits, greasy hair (in the worst cases even hair loss), blood-shot eyes, the "shakes," crying, wailing, screaming and general grunting are all in order. So, why not take it all the way? Fight fire with fire. Move into the mad house.

And it's for a good cause, too. The Library Challenge is doubling as a fundraiser for Page One Literacy, a local organization that promotes literacy in Addison County. Donations are welcomed.

The suite, also labeled 332 UM, is located on the top floor mezzanine on the left side (with your back to the circulation desk) at the very back. The boys nodded enthusiastically at the mention of visiting hours. "We'd love visitors! Meal-time is an appropriate time. As long as you bring food," Hetikamp said. Oh, right. Sustenance.

"We'll call people when we're hungry and just cross our fingers," Kruchoski answered. "I hope people will bring us food." The selection at the library café can get old pretty fast.

The Challenge has one basic rule — contenders must stay inside the library *at all times*. The only acceptable outside-area is the library patio on the second floor. One may only leave the library for medical/family emergencies and scheduled exams.

"The school boasts of its new multi-million dollar library with endless resources. Let's test those resources. During the course of the week, we are going to use everything the library has to offer," Heitkamp declared. One can rent movies, check out computers, use software and even dine in the cafe.

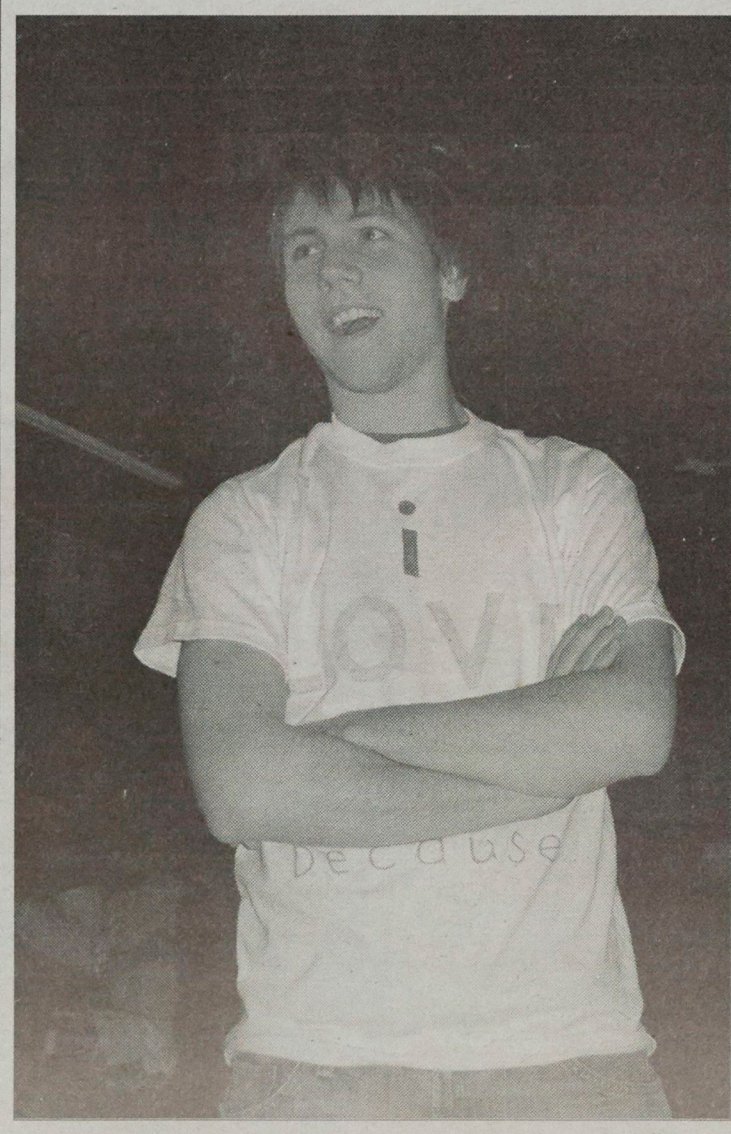
"People should see it as a challenge. Let's see other carrel suites take us on!" Kruchoski said. But what about underclassmen and seniors without carrels of their own — where will they sleep away the fluorescent library nights? Does the Kolligian Suite risk an invasion?

"Hell no!" Heitkamp exclaimed. "Find your own nook!"

When you begin your search for the perfect Challenge camp-out spot, there are some things you may want to keep in mind. First of all, stay away from the aisles. Heitkamp and Kruchoski have grand plans for using these open spaces as obstacle courses in their every-day exercise routines, which will also include bench presses with books, pull-ups off the mezzanine landings and interval training in the stairways. You want to have good proximity to one of the single-person restrooms, as this is where you will be keeping up your personal hygiene (when asked about the shower issue, Heitkamp answered coolly, "rags and sinks" while Kruchoski lowered his eyes

See eat, page 17

Love Your Body



Ilhan Kim

Showing off his beautiful bod, Adam Morgan '08 struts in the "Love Your Body Fashion Show," put on by Feminist Action at Middlebury.

AIDS week awakens College community

By Kelly Janis
Staff Writer

The urgent significance of observances such as World AIDS Week is clear. According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, at the end of 2005 there were an estimated 38.6 million people worldwide living with HIV, in addition to the more than 25 million people who have reportedly died of the disease since 1981.

The Student Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC), is one force working to redress these calamities. The group helps to educate and inspire activisim so that such figures recede in the future. In addition, the group "educates and raises awareness about the fight against AIDS on both the local and national level while also spanning fundraising events" as described by co-president Brittany McAdams '09. An integral part of that fight is the flurry of efforts staged on the Middlebury campus in concert with World AIDS Day. The event was established by the World Health Organization in 1988 and observed each year on Dec. 1, in the interest of illuminating the staggering prevalence of HIV/AIDS and urging government agencies, community organizations and individuals to do their part in combating the disease and supporting the search for a cure.

The SGAC does not settle, however, for a mere single day of recognition. Instead, for the past four years, it has translated World AIDS Day into a campus-wide World AIDS Week, celebrated this year from Nov. 29 through Dec. 2.

"World AIDS Week is important for us because it spreads awareness of HIV and AIDS on campus and gives the students a forum in which to talk about the epidemic," said McAdams. "It also addresses an issue that many people connect to third-world countries, specifically the African continent, and in doing so, often forget its harsh influence in the United States. World AIDS Week is hopefully also fun for students," she added.

The week's commemorative events kicked-off in McCardell Bicentennial Hall last Wednesday with "The Biogenetics of HIV/AIDS," a lecture given by Assistant Professor of Biology Jeremy Ward, who is currently researching the identification of the mammalian meiotic mutation with support from the Vermont Genetics Network. According to Ward he sought to cover "the basic biology of HIV, including what type of virus it is, how it infects, how it reproduces and how HIV therapies target various aspects of the viral life cycle."

Like the other events of the week, Ward's lecture had a clearly defined purpose. "AIDS week is a very important event on campus because it keeps the epidemic in the front of people's minds," he stated. "HIV/AIDS is one of the most important (and unfortunately deadly) epidemics humans have ever faced. I participate in AIDS week because to confront the epidemic we need grassroots-level education and activism."

From Thursday through Saturday, the Hepburn Zoo also staged four performances of "The Baltimore Waltz," a 1992 Pulitzer Prize finalist play by Paula Vogel. Caitlin Dennis '07 and Julia Proctor '07 produced the play as a senior work in theatre. It probes the plight of a protagonist with an AIDS-stricken brother. The main character dreams that she is the one wracked by a fictional, incurable disease – in this case, a parody of AIDS, "Acquired Toilet Disorder," which is billed as the fourth leading cause of death in single elementary school teachers. She then embarks upon a final grand tour of Europe with her brother to see the sights, and really, the men.

Thursday also saw the Parton Health Center offer ten free appointments including ' anonymous, needle-free HIV Testing – results are cited to be 99.8% accurate and available within 20 minutes. The appointments "went within an hour after we sent the email," said McAdams excitedly. "Apparently the Health Center phone was ringing off the hook." So enthusiastic was the student response to the free appointments that the SGAC has decided to devote itself this spring to changing College policy to provide for free HIV testing for all students.

The appointments were made possible on behalf of Vermont CARES, an organization whose mission, according to its website, is "to improve the quality of life, create compassionate communities and prevent the spread of HIV by working with people affected by HIV/AIDS as catalysts for social and individual change."

Friday afternoon, Glen Elder, professor and chair of the geography department at the University of Vermont; Bob Cluss, professor of chemistry and biochemistry; Terje Anderson, founder of Vermont CARES and Alicia Battle, director of health education all met for a panel discussion exploring the local and global impact of AIDS.

World AIDS Week concluded with The Red Party, held at 10 p.m. on Saturday night in the Lower Forest Basement, promising "food, drink, music and merriment in culmination of World AIDS Week events," according to publicity. Prior to the party, McAdams was enthusiastic. "This is our biggest event of the week," she said, "and we really hope it has a great turnout!" The Red Party was indeed a great success, drawing a large crowd over the course of the night and reeling in many gracious donations.

Complementing the week's events was the sale of red AIDS bracelets, both by individuals and in dining halls. While donations are still coming in, proceeds from the bracelets, the Red Party and "The Baltimore Waltz" collectively amounted to $350 in profit.

Proceeds collected at "The Baltimore Waltz" performances will directly benefit the Lesotho Experience Through Service project. From Dec. 5 through the 18, 40 participants from the United States, including Courtney Matson '06.5, will travel to Maseru, Lesotho in Africa to attend seminars, health fairs and leadership conferences with the intent of raising HIV awareness as part of an overarching global outreach initiative.

All remaining proceeds will go to Vermont CARES, the state's largest local advocate for HIV awareness and prevention. As stated on its website, CARES "envisions a world of compassionate neighborhoods where people live free of the stigma, poverty and oppression associated with the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and where the people of Vermont make informed decisions about HIV prevention, services and treatment; and where there isn't a need for Vermont CARES."

Angela Evancie

Rocking to benefit AIDS awareness, Dawn's Basement entertains a receptive Forest Basement crowd Saturday.

Help us with this caption!

Ilhan Kim

Your Caption Here!

Each week we supply a photo in need of a witty, original and creative caption.

We're asking you, our loyal features readers, to e-mail your entries to campus@middlebury.edu each Sunday evening by 5 p.m.

The following week we will print the old photo and the top entry.
We look forward to your submissions!

There's a fly in my creme brulée

By Katie Hylas
Columnist

"I've told the American people all I'm going to tell them…that I made mistakes…years ago. And I've learned from those mistakes." With this approach, George W. Bush managed to pacify just enough Americans to get elected and avoid the consequences of his rowdy past, which included the abuse of alcohol and, allegedly, hard drugs. Similarly, President Bill Clinton proclaimed that he tried marijuana, but never actually inhaled.

Our generation dropped the ball. None of us will be able to get elected President of the United States. Let's examine Middlebury College. Middlebury is a fine institution. It has a rigorous academic program which focuses on writing, mastering other languages and learning about other cultures. In fact, The U.S. News & World Report says this school is the fifth best in its class. So it should be cranking out oodles of fine presidential material. Right?

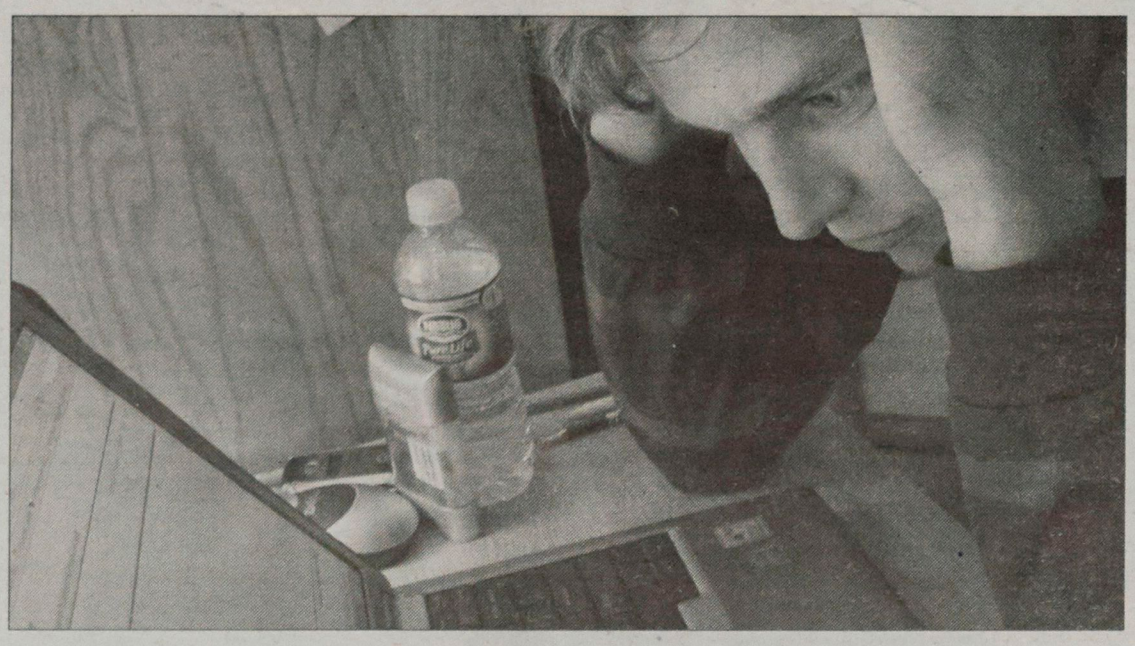
Au contraire, my friends! The brightest here cannot aspire to that lofty seat in the oval office. Why? Because we, and all our buddies at other top schools, are plastered on facebook.com and other social networking websites. Think about it: It's one thing to dodge a vague accusation — Bush and Clinton just barely got away with it — but how do you explain away or minimize the importance of a picture? Untagging accomplishes nothing — once it's up there, there's always a chance that someone will stumble across it years down the line.

Many wouldn't hesitate to turn in an old college picture, perhaps accidentally saved by an absent-minded drag and click of a mouse, in exchange for a plump check from the press. Honestly, who's going to elect a president that they can see giving the shocker, holding a handle of vodka, grabbing their own crotch or chugging from a box of Franzia?

Bush and Clinton managed to muddle through and survive press beatings regarding their dubious pasts. Maybe by the time we are old enough to put some of our own up for office, the information overload will render everyone's social/alcohol/drug-use habits boring and irrelevant. I'll tip my hat to that. I think it's possible.

However, I'm afraid that our generation's best and most charismatic characters might be precluded from achieving certain heights for, well, being normal (yes, sadly, the aforementioned behaviors do occur amongst normal college students despite their demure performances in class). There are those among us who avoid facebook.com, despite the fact that it serves as our generation's most powerful social networking tool. There are also people who stay in their rooms and don't put themselves out there enough to get digitally snapped doing embarrassing things. I guess those kids could be our presidential candidates, but good politicians are socially deft and understand the trends at hand. Without the facebookers as candidates, we might miss out.

Bannerweb demons lay dormant this go round



Marie Horbar

If the idea of Banner Web registration puts you in a state of gloom, fear no more. This year, according to Registrar Pamela Anastassiou, the College experienced "the most successful BannerWeb registration yet." During this year's spring registration, on day one, 520 of 532 second semester seniors, or 98 percent, were registered by the end of the day. On Dec. 1, 562 out of 566 first-years, or 99 percent, had registered by the end of the day. In total, 2,230 of 2,304, or 97 percent of the student body, had successfully registered. The only change implemented this year was a reduction of digits in the alternate pin number, down from six to four, to distinguish it from the student ID number.

Ok Go be promiscuous at Middance

By Polly Johnson
Associate Editor

McCullough Social Space was rocked last Saturday night as the members of Middance took to the stage, delivering one of the most energetic and exciting shows to date. Middance Co-Presidents Haley Gilbert '07.5 and Kerren McKeeman '07.5 ensured that the show, "So You Think Midd Can Dance?" included all genres of dance and all kinds of different dancers, and the result was a fast-paced performance that definitely evoked the talents showcased on ABC's "So You Think You Can Dance?"

The show came together under the hard work of Gilbert and McKeeman. Gilbert said of the show's organization, "Kerren and I have been organizing this show since before the semester started. We met the week before school started and planned our theme, figured out our show dates and the timing of dress rehearsals and rehearsal practices. We then had our first board meeting during the first week of school."

The show featured four judges, including Associate Dean of the College Marichal Gentry, Dean of Library and Information Services Barbara Doyle-Wilch, Will Hunt '07.5 and Dean Atyia '08.5, each of who provided unique and humorous insight into and judgment of the dances, which were graded on a one-to ten-point scale. The variety of dances was noteworthy — a coed group grooved to house beats, a group of girls danced in tutus to Madonna's "Like a Prayer," one member belly danced and the show concluded with a final climactic ensemble performance to the guilty pleasure pop song of the summer, "Promiscuous Girl." Of the final performance, Middance member Eric Hoest '07.5 commented, "Promiscuous Girl was definitely the best dance of the night, since it is the best song written in this century and musicians and choreographers are going to be hard-pressed to come up with something better within the next 94 years."

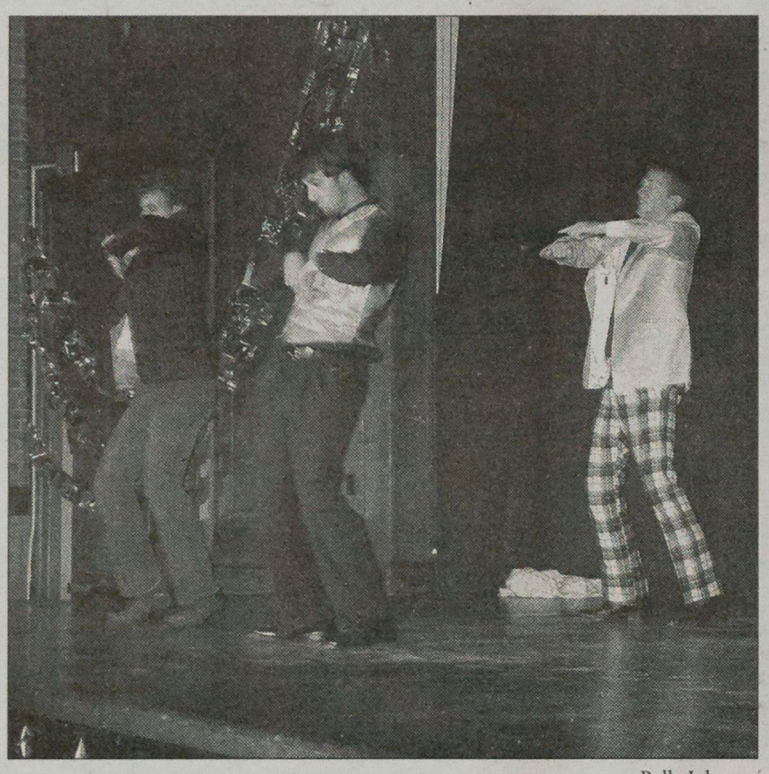
Hoest may have praised the final dance as the best of the night, but the dance he participated in, set to the beat of an OK Go song, along with Will Martin '07.5, Josh Hendrickson '07.5 and Max Hames '07.5, received such acclaim from the judges and excitement from the audience that it might have run a close second as the audience favorite. Martin said that "seeing four lanky, awkward guys in front of a ballet mirror just trying to perfect the moves" was probably the highlight of the dance's preparation.

Preparation for the big night was no small task or simple feat. According to Gilbert, "this year there were fewer dancers than in the past," even though, as she stressed, "there are no tryouts and everyone can participate!" She attributed the lack of dancers this year to a crowded activities fair and lack of response from the original Middance e-mail list. But it worked out, since, as Gilbert noted, "in the end, a smaller show, with fewer people, was easier to manage and easier for the audience to enjoy."

McKeeman echoed that sentiment: "Middance is so great — the dancers just have to get up onstage and have a blast and suddenly it's contagious and the 300 people in the audience can't help but feel it too."

While the show may have been smaller, the audience lapped up every minute of it. The judges added a fun touch. Doyle-Wilch took on the role of Madame d'Witch, played off of her name and how people seem to confuse it with Doyle-Witch, while Hunt was dressed in Gentry's purple African flowing outfit. McKeeman, who was happy with the judges and host, said"I'm really happy with the spunk and humor the judges brought to the show, and our host Christine [Chung '10] just lit up the stage and was the thread that tied it all together." Overall, the show was a great success.

Obviously still basking in the glory of the show, Hoest said, "this Middance show was the best one since I've been here. It left the audience wanting more, unlike many shows at McCullough that tend to go on for the whole night. The transitions were fun and the dances were catchy."



Polly Johnson

Busting "Matrix" inspired dance moves, these boys sure can Middance.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

New York's morbidly obese	New York's morbidly obese
You now need not worry about harmful trans fats in your food!	You are *morbidly* obese.
Midd holiday decorations	Get the heck out!
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Swanky London restaurants	Polonium-210
"Look its Gwyneth and Apple!"	"I hate Putin...does this fish taste weird to you?"

Friends and colleagues bid Davis farewell

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

here, Professor Davis helped to solidify our department's offerings in contemporary American politics, especially courses on the Congress and the American presidency," Dry recalled.

Davis holds this expertise in American politics very highly when reflecting upon his many years at Middlebury. He hopes that people will remember him as a man who "built a strong base for the study of American politics" at Middlebury.

"In the most essential respects, Eric Davis has remained a consistently excellent teacher and active scholar on a wide range of topics in American politics," says Dry. "If I have a question on American politics and can't get the answer from my books or my computer, I call or e-mail Professor Davis."

"I never heard Eric Davis say a single sentence that did not rest on comprehensive and focused observation of the subject matter, thoughtful analysis of what he had observed, and then the clearest possible expression of what he1d observed and studied," says Paul Nelson, G. Nye and A. Walker Boardman Professor of Mental and Moral Science.

Davis also cultivated strong bonds between students, "his demeanor creates an extremely open and comfortable classroom environment that leads to authentic, fluid discussions rather than a rigid question and answer sessions between the students and professor," says Walker Dimmig '08, currently a student in Davis' U.S. Presidential Elections class.

In addition to Davis' contributions to the political science department, he also made his mark as a leader and an administrator in Old Chapel. His role in the development of the first-year seminar program is one of his more significant contributions to the school.

Says President Emeritus John McCardell "I credit Eric principally for making the First Year Seminar program workable...of all his contributions this may be his best." Davis served as the director of the first-year seminar program from 1987-1990. Today he calls it "one of the most successful curricular advances in our history."

Davis was also at the center of the New Library project, a project of which he is most proud.

"I am very, very pleased [with] how the architects took our concept and translated it into physical reality," says Davis. He specifically mentioned the room where his final lecture will be held today — a "smart classroom" that Davis personally worked on to make sure it was state of the art. "It has everything," he says, referring to its numerous technological abilities.

Eric Davis was also "one of the most unassuming, disinterested good citizens in this community," according to McCardell. "And by disinterested I mean fair, impartial and neutral to a fault."

In addition to writing a weekly column in the local paper, Davis has played an instrumental role in the coverage of state and national politics. **"His knowledge of Vermont politicis is encyclopaedic, his observations succinct and informative, his unfailing courtesy always welcome," says Marselis Parsons, News Director of Channel 3 WCAX-TV.**

During Howard Dean's campaign for the presidency, Davis expertise was critical. "National media looked to him for incisive comment on the campaign. At one point, he was heard or seen on almost every network noting the change in our governor from fiscal conservative to social liberal," says Parsons.

For Davis, these past 26 years were not entirely work, however.

"I remember serving as Eric's best man at his and Kitty's wedding. My daughter Rachel almost lost the wedding ring, but Eric kept an eye on it," says Dry.

As he prepares for his departure, Davis will retain some lingering concerns about the present state of the College. He expressed lament over the College's social focus shifting away from on-campus activities and cites the drinking age as a main problem.

"I wish policy makers would reconsider [the drinking age]," he says.

Academically Davis is very pleased with how Middlebury has become a nationally recognized liberal arts college, but worries about some current student attitudes towards academics.

"While students are diverse, there may be a little less adventurousness and risk taking," he says, citing the growing number of specialization and double majors.

Regardless, Davis remains optimistic about Middlebury's future without him. Davis hopes Middlebury can "build on our strengths such as Breadloaf, the Language Schools and the Monterey Institute, and then distinguish ourselves even further." And he is optimistic that Middlebury will continue to be a "unique type of liberal arts college."

As for his personal future, "my interests are shifting towards the humanities," says Davis, citing his new interest in British cathedrals. He envisions moving to England in the near future to attend service at each of England's 42 cathedrals, "I've been to 21 so far," he says. At this point in his life Davis notes he is interested in "dealing with more transcendent questions than who will win the next presidential election."

A close friend, Dry says he will always remember Davis.

"The College is a much better place for his having been here for 25 years," says Dry. "I am sorry that he is leaving us, but perhaps he will continue to answer my e-mail requests for information on American politics."

Eat, sleep and read Literacy

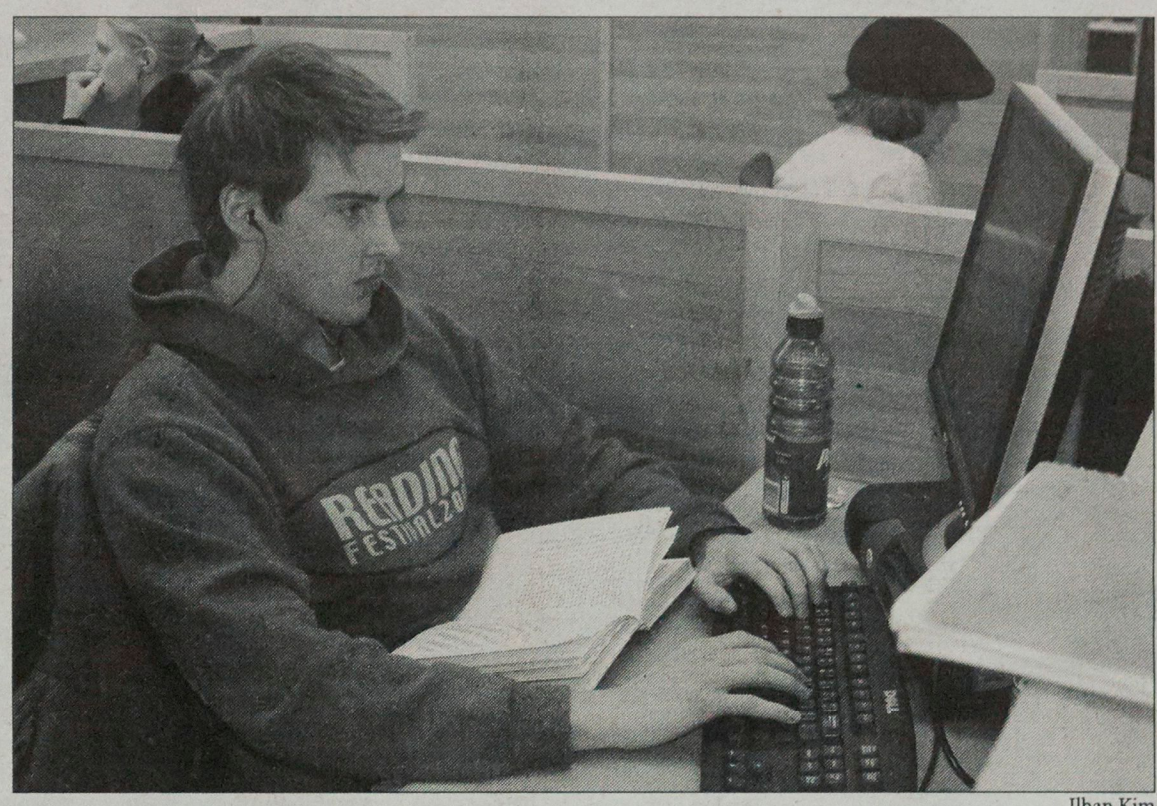
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

with a simple, "No comment.")

When the Challenge was still in the early stags of conception, all the residents of the Kolligian Carrel Suite tested out the sleeping options available and concluded that four can sleep comfortably underneath two adjoining carrels. The observation was also made that, unless you move around unusually violently in your sleep and thus activate the motion sensors, the suite lights will go off after a certain period of time.

But be prepared to get up early, there are no blinds on those windows. If you do embrace the Challenge, make sure you maintain respect for the students studying around you. No excessive noise, please. As Heitkamp said, "I think this will have a minimum impact on the studying environment." But the Challenge doesn't seem quite so risk-free for the rest of us. When asked what he plans to do during the week, Kruchoski answered, "The library is going to be our new home. So anything that is done at home is going to be done in the library."

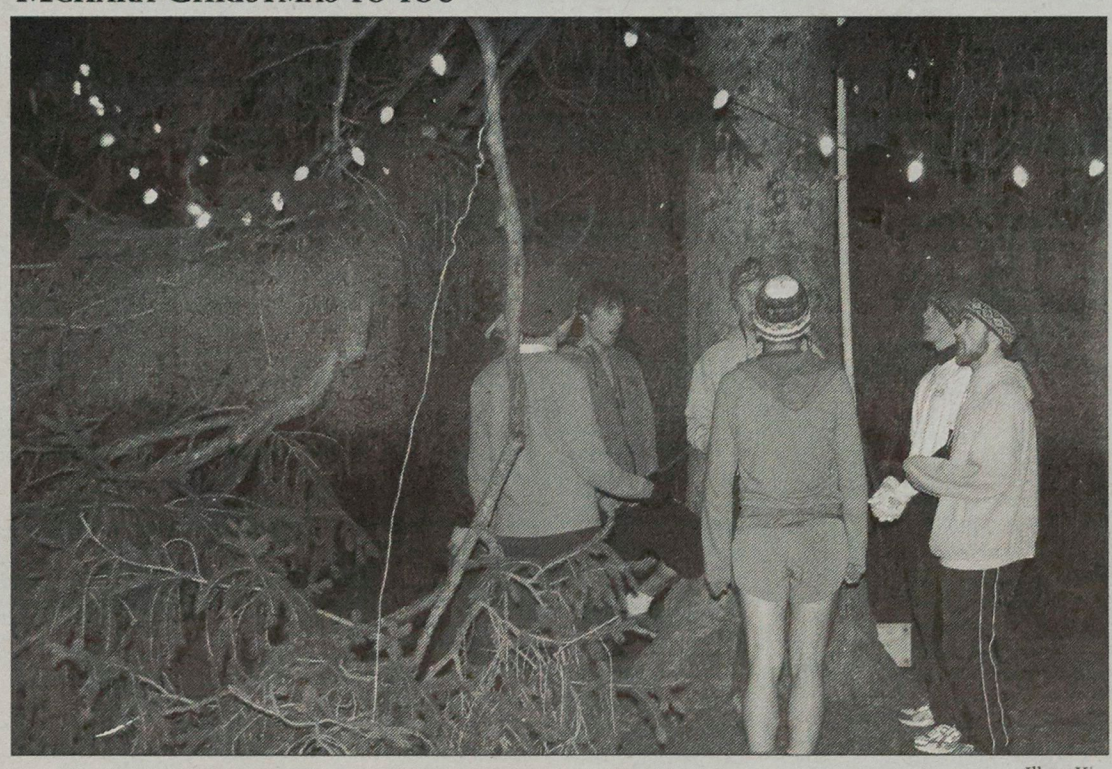
In a final moment of what could be interpreted as regret, Kruchoski added with a grimace, "This is going to be hell." But Heitkamp sternly countered, "If you don't last, it's a disgrace. Pulling out is not an option."



Ilhan Kim

Harry Irby '08 says, "the Midd workload is ridiculous and bloody difficult," and he won't be sleeping in a carrel.

MCHAKA CHRISTMAS TO YOU



Ilhan Kim

Members of MchakaMchaka rest under the Christmas Tree on a cold night this past week. The group sings African tribal songs while running around campus and operates in relative quiet except for nights like these.

The Middlebury Campus

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IS THIS FILM ON THE ROYAL FAMILY A CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT?

Dancers flex creativity in fall concert

By Alexxa Gotthardt
Arts Editor

Lizzy Zevallos

Dancers Rebecca Marcus '07.5 and Philippe Bronchtein '10 brought the stage to life, completely mastering the space with energetic movement and evocative poses in this year's collaborative Fall Dance Concert.

This past weekend's Fall Dance Concert, held in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre, was marked by intoxicating contradiction. The eclectic range of student and faculty dancers and choreographers were not aiming for coherence. There was no obvious, defined theme to the night; instead the nine dances were subtly linked by a common goal to convey genuine emotion through movement. This honesty and originality of expression fostered a stimulating performance at once diverse and fluid, playful and profound, raw and polished.

Each fall, the Dance Program presents a concert consisting primarily of student choreography. This year was no exception as students in the Intermediate/Advanced dance class conceived, in their entirety, six of the nine pieces in the show. Two of the additional pieces, while directed by Andrea Olsen, Professor of Dance and Director of The Dance Company of Middlebury, were also collaboratively created by involved student dancers. Still another work, the newcomers' piece *Ostrich Glory*, was jointly choreographed by Artist in Residence Tiffany Rhynard and six first-year dancers.

Though a single voice drove each piece in its initial stages, all the finished products were strengthened by the enthusiastic collaboration of choreographers and dancers. This was seen especially in The Dance Company of Middlebury's duet *Partners* and finale-piece *Dancin'*.

"There are so many things that a dance show can bring to the College community," said Olsen. "I think one is collaboration. It's an opportunity to really witness people collaborating from different cultural backgrounds and different communities across the campus — faculty and students, designers and students."

This fall's concert animatedly combined a diverse range of inspirations and backgrounds. The first piece of the performance, *Etymon's Facsimile*, choreographed by Tatiana Virviescas Mendoza '07, set the stage for the originality and imagination that characterized the concert. Mendoza's Columbian heritage and her fascination with memory, tradition and community were clear as *Facsimile* dancers leapt energetically around the evocative props, gazed at the guitar-bearing troubadour who entered the stage, swung their skirted hips to sensual Latin song and intertwined limbs in smooth partnering and excited play. Sudden changes in music tempo and the dancers' formation — from groups to duets to solos — communicated a tangible sense of restlessness and the excitement of exploration.

The electric spandex outfits and wildly contrasting movement of junior Adriane Medina's *Calendar-Balancing* also generated a contagious sense of energy and excitement: one minute the dancers' pliable bodies jerked frenetically across stage, while the next minute arms, legs and torsos rolled over and around each other in graceful shared weight.

Ostrich Glory used innovative methods of dialogue and narrative in contrast and combination with dance to pull the audience further into the performance. Though at times the text distracted from the movement, the first-years shone in this whimsical and emotive piece. They simulated airplanes, spoke of the day's activities, played a vigorous game of hide-and-seek, struck comical yet disconcerting poses as "deer in headlights" and responded with invigorating movement to music, scenario, word and each other's sprints, leaps, jerks and lifts.

Olsen's *Partners* changed the energetic tone of the first half of the show with its more somber, otherworldly aura. Louisa Irving '07 and Simon Thomas-Train's '09 statuesque poses and tender partnering were set against an eternal woodland projection and a beat-driven African-inspired score by Philip Hamilton '82. What began as a simple, sweet façade of a relationship transformed into something much deeper and affecting when the music stopped and the audience found themselves listening to the duo's heavy breathing and concentrating on the tension-filled moments of touch and release.

The second half of the concert opened with a different flavor as the cheongsam-clad dancers of Chi Zhang's '09 *In the Mood for Love* scuttled onto stage. This traditional Chinese dance was punctuated by a sensual tango-esque duet from Lizzy Zevallos '09 and David Birr '10. In sleek black costume and liberated movement, the two opposed the stiff, strained steps of the others in a poignant commentary on tradition and progression.

Irving's *which came first* followed. Dappled lighting and Antony and the Johnson's sweet, tuneful "For Today I am a Boy" set the tone for a puckish, nostalgic piece in which the dancers seemed like excited, over-alert, ever-responsive children. Though the attitude may have been childlike, the dancers' wild gyrations and sweeping sequences across stage were anything but elementary, testing the bounds of spatial relationships and physical interaction with playfulness.

In *Onlookers*, a solo choreographed by Sharyn Korey '07, senior Erin Twohig's dancing transformed from an energetic manifestation of happiness to an expression of anger, conveyed through vigorous floorwork, impossibly high jumps and frenzied stomping. Though short and somewhat hurried, the piece managed to take the viewer on a powerful emotional ride.

Senior Rebecca Marcus' duet, *The Falling*, begins with dancers moving on a dark, silent stage. Language enters the scenario: "Since you've been gone, I've reinvented you in 10 different ways." This moving piece about tragedy, devotion and reinvention sends the two dancers through a series of beautiful and deliberate motions: slow, soft stretches and tilts are interrupted when the dancers grab at the sky in frantic desperation or move their mouths wildly in silent speech. The poignant choreography and thoughtful execution of movement came together to create perhaps the most captivating piece of the concert.

Dancin', the dynamic final piece of the performance, proved an appropriate finale to the night. With a video projection of the 10 dancers' live-movement as the backdrop, their lively leaps and undulations seemed to continue into infinite space, conveying the idea that dance, a vital, liberating form of expression, is everywhere.

Creative expression found in dance seems especially important at Middlebury, where the stresses of studying can become overpowering and overwhelming. "To me, dance has always been a synonym of joy and of community building," said Mendoza. "It is a way in which people can express themselves without being judged as you would in a more regular academic setting."

Though the concert was a spectacular combination of diverse inspiration, thoughtful choreography and lively movement — an arguably important release and engaging form of entertainment — only half of the 140 sold-out seats were taken by students.

"I think modern dance is underappreciated at Middlebury. A lot of people seem to be scared to attend these dance performances because they feel like they need to 'understand' a piece," said Marcus. "But modern dance is much less about how long a dancer can stand on his tippy-toes for or how fast a dancer can shake her ass; it's about appreciating the ways we can express ourselves and about becoming conscious of our own reactions to the dance, which give us further insight into who we are. It's about appreciation for self-expression — and this goes for any art form at Middlebury."

Sepomana is scene and heard

Dynamic vocals and rocking beats captivated concert-goers last Friday in McCullough Social Space at Sepomana, the annual music festival sponsored by Middlebury College's student radio-station, WRMC. After careful debate by the Board of Directors, WRMC brought three up and coming artists to the College in a raucous show. Baby Dayliner, Mobius Band and Andrew Bird came together in what was arguably the most impressive Sepomana turnout in years.

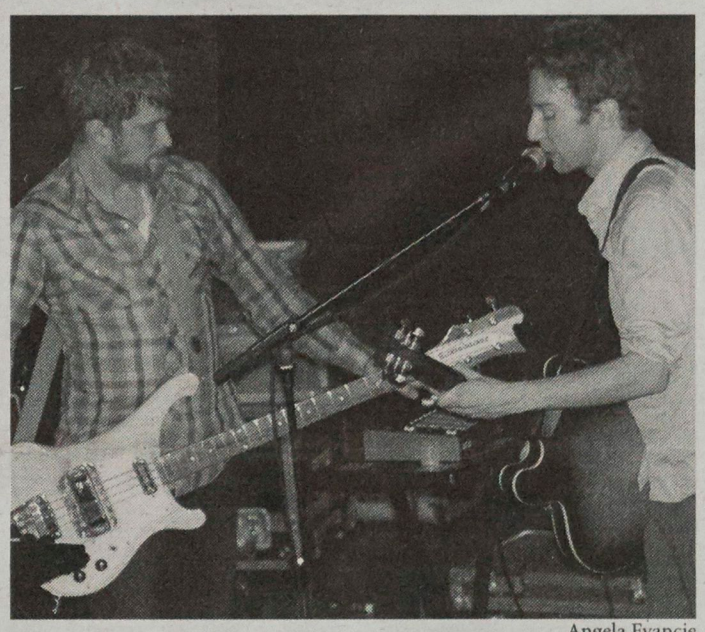
Chris Heinrich

BABY DAYLINER: *reviewed by Melissa Marshall*

Armed only with a suitcase full of equipment and a voice compared to Sinatra and Bowie, Baby Dayliner strided onto the McCullough stage in front of a crowd that would have made even the most seasoned Proctor patron nervous. With his eclectic musical influences ranging from 80s synth pop to underground rap to Japanese Kabuki Theatre music, the somewhat awkward Ethan Marunas (later dubbed Baby Dayliner) seemed to win over the elite audience. Praised by hipster-hyped music magazine XLR8R as "the white, bequiffed, male vocalist brilliantly repackaged for the iTunes generation," Baby Dayliner did not disappoint. Was it his off-beat, cabaret-lounge vocal stylings that endeared him to Sepomana specators? Perhaps it was his beats reminiscent of techno darlings Daft Punk. Or maybe the secret to his success lay in his stiff dance moves that caused some in attendance to cringe in communal awkwardness. In any event, Marunas' originality and provactive bebops comprised an opening act appropriate for a festival bent on broadening musical horizons. This baby, however, is going to have to work on his stage presence and delivery if he hopes to one day be a headliner.

MOBIUS BAND: *reviewed by Starrett Berry*

Catchy, yet complicated, Mobius Band was a perfect group to bring in for Sepomana. My friend coined a fitting phrase for this band: Postal Service on steroids. This electro-rock trio got everyone in McCullough moving. Their music was enthralling, fun and epic all at the same time. Their electronics blended well with the instruments, painting a cinematic soundscape around the social space. The band, hailing from Shutesbury, Mass., built up their music from small simple riffs to an explosion of sound that kept the audience dancing through every single song. Their stage presence was contagious, and everyone responded well to it even after they broke the atmosphere to ask the sound technician to fix the monitors. Despite a few jarring technical difficulties, Mobius' resonant vocals and driving beats filled the room, creating a strong connection between the audience and the three Wesleyan University grads. Even though most of those in attendance didn't know the words, this did not prevent them from having fun. The band is sure to take off with success — good news for the avid indie/electric listeners on campus.



Angela Evancie

Chris Heinrich

ANDREW BIRD: *reviewed by Jordan Nassar*

Two poached eggs, homefries and herbal tea. Whole wheat toast to the left, he heaped black pepper all over his food before asking for hot sauce. Andrew Bird enjoyed lazy late brunch at Steve's Park Diner, the afternoon after Sepomana — it was the first time Bird seemed to relax since he arrived in Middlebury the night before.

Andrew's experience at Sepomana was not what one would immediately refer to as "going off without a hitch." After having spent almost a day in airports — a storm getting in the way of the otherwise quick trip between Chicago and Burlington redirected him through D.C. — and exhausted from driving alone from the airport to Middlebury during Friday's wintry thunderstorm, he arrived at McCullough only an hour or two before the show was supposed to begin. Whether his unkempt and somewhat agitated demeanor was a product of his treacherous journey or just a side-effect of his genius, I am unsure, but after his sound check, Baby Dayliner and Mobius Band played their sets and Andrew was up, ready or not.

It seemed that a little nap, a few espresso shots and well over 400 people staring at him were suitable conditions for Andrew Bird to play some music. His music, as those at Sepomana witnessed, is not something one merely plays. A one man show, Andrew seemed to build the songs in front of the audience. Beginning with a simple violin line, he recorded himself on stage and looped that back, adding another melody to it, plucking out a bass line and some harmonies. Quick transitions to his glockenspiel and guitar, all the while recording the instruments separately and playing them back together, grew into multi-layered songs, with his voice and whistling completing his strikingly unusual and brilliantly unique performance.

Those who heard Andrew's music before Friday's concert were, from what I could tell, more than satisfied with his performance. Having played some of his most popular songs like *Sovay* and *Measuring Cups*, and then treating us to a new one on his record planned for release early next year, there was not much to complain about. I imagine some Sepomana-goers, having expected a more danceable rock band, would have been disappointed by Andrew's acoustic, slower melodies — had they not been in awe of his remarkable performance.

After a gracious encore, the exhausted Andrew Bird retired from stage, the lights went on, and the show was over. On their way out, the audience looked satisfied, some buying Andrew Bird merchandise and most discussing highlights of the show. And so, another Sepomana by WRMC came to a successful close.

FOR THE RECORD

by Emily Temple

By now, it's a rather stale story: the indie artist vaulted to stardom via intense internet popularity, but for Lily Allen it was truly a self-motivated, unprecedentedly fast rags-to-riches story. After signing with Regal/Polygram in the UK, Allen set up her own MySpace account without any industry suggestion or approval. People took immediate notice, and within a couple months, Regal's head of press was soon getting phone calls about this girl, Lily Allen, whom he had never heard of. She just wasn't big enough at the label — also home to Coldplay, Kylie Minogue and Gorillaz — but the excitement surrounding Allen forced him to pick his head up and have a look at what he had: at that point, a MySpace star who had organized her publicity completely independently and to great effect.

Crass, honest, quick-witted and supremely self-confident, 21-year-old Allen is the girl we all kind of wish we had the balls to be. The UK tabloids have tagged her a "potty-mouthed, pint-sized pop diva," but even that sounds a bit too demure for Lily Allen. She is not an out-of-control brat; she is an assertive, opinionated woman, whose piss-off pop lyrics slam sleazy guys, catty girls and loser ex-boyfriends. She has gotten in trouble in the press for talking about sex, drugs and other celebrities, but she refuses to censor herself. She repeatedly expresses her confusion that anyone could fault her for speaking the truth, especially when it comes to admitting that she likes to have a drink now and again.

She has also spoken out against the industry standards for women. In an interview with Pitchfork, she commented that female artists are expected "to sit and look pretty and do what they're told." Similarly, she complained that her insults towards other artists are only seen as bitchy and catty because she's a woman. But Allen is going to break down those stereotypes.

Allen is the daughter of comedian Keith Allen and the woman who produced "Shaun of the Dead," Alison Owen. But her rise to stardom was not connected to them, nor did she grow up as a limelight child. Her father left when she was four and was not a part of her life again until she was fifteen. What her parents did offer her, though, was a superb record collection. She grew up listening to Blondie, the Specials, T.Rex and De La Soul, and you can hear it in her work.

Her first album, *Alright, Still*, was released in the UK on Parlophone/EMI in July 2006, and her first single, "Smile," hit the top of the charts soon after. Apparently, in teenage UK slang, "alright, still" means "cool." As in, "Yeah, she's alright, still." In interviews, Lily has said that her favorite quote — from Einstein no less — is "Nothing changes until something moves," so things are all right, if they're still. The album itself is chock full of unquestionable hits, the only real flop being "Take What You Take," an overzealous pop anthem. However, Lily has said, "I [expletive] hate that song more than anything in the world," so we can forgive her.

The rest of the tracks pulse with R&B rhythms and reggae influences, backing good stories and witty, sassy lyrics. It's a breakup album, but without the weepy guitars and self-pity. Rather, it seems to be in the guise of a happy-go-lucky summer album. "Smile," reports a girl's attitude after a boyfriend has broken her heart: "At first when I see you cry/It makes me smile/At worst, I feel bad for a while/But then I just smile."

"Knock 'Em Out," my personal favorite, is a fed-up girl anthem against the unwanted advances of random dudes in bars. And "Not Big?" Well, in the context of a breakup album, I think you can guess.

Allen is signed to Capitol in the U.S., and the rumor is that they will release *Alright, Still* in the states early next year. But let's not lie, for those in the know, "release dates" don't matter anyway — at the very least, it's available on Amazon. As an added bonus, her new single, "Littlest Things," a sweet retrospective ballad on a failed relationship, is due out on December 11. America, get ready.

REGALLY BLONDE
Episode V: Heating Up Exams

by Astri von Arbin Ahlander

Exams are rapidly approaching, meaning so are all-nighters at the library and, invariably, unflattering sweatsuits. Is it too much to ask to stay hot during the peak of stress? I think not. But just like you can't expect to take two-hour lunch breaks come mid-December, you also can't be expected to maintain your former style. As you begin scheduling in five-minute coffee breaks to see your friends — and reclaim your sanity — you also change your fashion habits to match the hype of the times. And so I offer up some high-stress, low-maintenance tips to keep it hot this exam season.

After three straight all-nighters, sweats are understandably a must. But, unless you have a matching velour track-suit (if you do, by all means, wear it!) the key to making comfort clothes work is the jigsaw puzzle approach. That is, fit the right pieces together to make a pleasing whole. If you wear sweatpants, make sure you wear something fitted up top. If you can't possibly make it through the 10-page paper without the comfort of your boyfriends sweatshirt, choose skinny jeans on the bottom. These are often made in super-stretchy materials, so there's no excuse for slipping on that oversized pair instead. Just make sure you're never caught in sweatpants and a sweatshirt at the same time. If you do encounter a fellow student outfitted in such a way, the only remedy is to discretely look away.

The second key to a successful comfort outfit is to accessorize. What was it Jackie O said? "It's all in the details." A hot pair of earrings doesn't take time to put on and, unless you choose from the Beyonce-sized variety, they're not uncomfortable. Stuff your books in a chic shoulder bag. Forego the flip-flops and sneakers in favor of a hot pair of boots. Who says sweatpants can't be tucked into furry-lined suedes? They'll keep your toes cozy, too. But perhaps the most important accessory for this chilly and stressful time is the hat. Whether knitted, fur-lined, cotton, wool or luxury cashmere, worn tucked over the ears, nonchalantly tweaked to the side or pulled down low over the eyes, well-chosen head gear not only hides your greasy, no-time-for-a-shower hair and stress-induced acne-ridden forehead — it also invariably adds a cute-and-cuddly look to any exam-taker. Which leads me to my next point: library love.

At first glance, it may seem as though there is no worse time to cultivate romance on campus than during exams. Think again. Exam period is the one time when you can be sure of where to find your crush: the library. And, just like winter darkness and seasonal depression bring people seeking warmth together, stress can also act as an erotic agent. Sex is a common physical response to emotional instability. I'm not saying it's a good thing, I'm just saying that's the way it is. Exams are an excellent time to meet new people to crush on. There's nothing like bonding over a broken printer, an empty stapler cartridge or shared wrath brought on by a loud cell-phone talker.

Middlebury may be a haven of health, but come exams the percentage of smokers — beyond the staple internationals — skyrockets. And so, the smoking scene directly outside the library doors becomes a breeding ground for close encounters. The exam period is also a funny time because it is so un-synched. Some are swamped until the last day while others are finished almost before the panic has begun. Hence, no matter the threatening reminders from Public Safety to leave 24 hours after your last exam, there is always a slew of stragglers hanging around, ever-ready to party and relieve your stress with a comforting embrace.

To conclude, my sage advice for the upcoming exam period is to gear up with hot comfort clothes and brave the library with an open mind and an open heart.

Astri

Baltimore Waltz acting is right in step

By Kelsey Smith
Staff Writer

Caitlin Dennis

The multifaceted performances of Julia Proctor '06.5, Willie Orbison '08 and Rishabh Kashyap '08 made this dramatic comedy about the AIDS crisis especially poignant.

Paula Vogel's "The Baltimore Waltz," the senior work of Caitlin Dennis '06.5 and Julia Proctor '06.5, opened Thursday evening at the Hepburn Zoo. Director Dennis continued the Zoo's long-standing tradition of presenting challenging student-designed and produced work with a powerful performance that carried the audience through a bumpy ride of imagined possibilities.

Vogel, a playwright who is known for dealing with uncomfortable, sexually-charged topics — AIDS, pornography, prostitution and pedophilia — does not shy away from taboo. "The Baltimore Waltz" is Vogel's own personal cathartic response to the death of her brother, Carl, who succumbed to AIDS in 1988. Upon entering the Zoo, audience members were presented with a letter written from Carl to his sister, prefaced by Vogel's words, projected onto a simple, white sheet obstructing the stage. Carl frankly addresses his burial ceremony with a hint of comedy punctuating his unavoidable sadness. In Vogel's preface, she confesses that she did not take her brother up on an offer to tour Europe shortly before he died, saying, "I declined, never dreaming that he was HIV positive."

Dennis identified the difficulty of balancing humor and horror in the production, explaining that, "Sometimes it was a challenge to know exactly what parallels to HIV or homosexuality Vogel was attempting to draw at any given moment. The text is complicated and at times very opaque. But we realized you couldn't think of it as an allegory alone. It's really far more than that."

The complex dream world that is "The Baltimore Waltz" is not about any one thing in particular, but rather the way that all the elements of comedy and tragedy add up to make, well, life. The result is a "what could have been" scenario, involving an imagined farewell trip through Europe, in which it is Anna (Proctor), the stage incarnation of Vogel, who has fallen ill, not Carl.

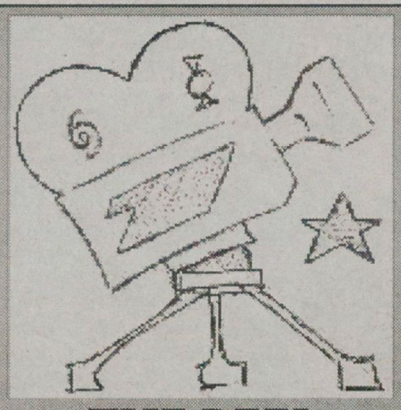
It is often difficult to distinguish between the voice of Anna and the voice of Vogel. Anna, an unmarried first-grade teacher, is informed by a doctor that she has contracted ATD, Acquired Toilet Disease, a fatal and mysterious illness with a high risk factor for those sharing seats with five-year-olds. She and her brother Carl, played by Rishabh Kashyap '08, depart for Europe in search of a doctor who may be able to help cure her.

The performances were solid and the cast should be congratulated for working through a very opaque text. Willie Orbison '08 was responsible for most of the laughs from the audience with his performance as "The Third Man," playing everything from a socially awkward doctor to a bashful Dutch boy to a sexually forward French man. Orbison's combination of physicality and nonsensical German, French and Dutch dialects stole the show, heightening the contrast between humor and tragedy.

The affection expressed between Proctor and Kashyap was tangible. Proctor, a longstanding veteran of the Hepburn Zoo, emerged in a particularly adult role, something that has been lacking in some of her previous performances. Because of her maturity, it was difficult at times to believe that she and Kashyap were nearly the same age.

The expression of their relationship was actually strengthened by the four-in-one set piece that served as a train, hospital bed, hotel room and barstool. Their maneuvering of the unwieldy piece of "furniture" was carefully and successfully orchestrated. Yet the background set, an explosion of giant, gold-plated picture frames and purple fabrics, was a bit distracting at times. While it was understandable that the design was meant to convey the fantasy world that Anna had created, at moments the garishness of the design choices detracted from the focus on the actors. The sound design was especially moving, as the music Carl requested Vogel play at his burial ceremony was laced seamlessly throughout the production.

The play's constant discussion of the inadequacies of language added an interesting element to the performance. The evening was sprinkled with lessons on the role of different kinds of communication: medical jargon in laymen's terms, how to have a phone conversation, etc. Matters were complicated by the introduction of foreign languages. The most poignant comparison came when Anna, sitting on the doctor's table, comes to terms with the phrase, "there's nothing we can do." Anna turns it over in her mind, conjugating it into every form possible. Dennis, another veteran of the Middlebury College Theatre Department, brought together a particularly cogent interpretation of a very difficult text. The production was collectively effective; the end result was a piece that spoke to the audience, moving many to tears.



THE REEL CRITIC
by Justine Katzenbach

MOVIE | THE QUEEN
DIRECTOR | STEPHEN FREARS
STARRING | HELEN MIRREN, MICHAEL SHEEN

Pearl Harbor, John F. Kennedy's assassination, September 11th — the days that define an era are often rooted in tragedy. These dates become ingrained in our minds instantaneously, transforming a simple number on a calendar into 24 unforgettable hours. Suddenly, the mundane becomes memorable. The classroom where you sat, the shirt you wore, the quiet girl in the corner who began to gently weep — nothing goes unremembered.

In "The Queen," director Stephen Frears shows that life is defined by the choices we make in the face of sudden tragedy. Set immediately following Princess Diana's August 1997 death, the film recounts the struggles of the Royal Family after the controversial Princess's death. A mélange of history and dramatic interpretation, "The Queen" is a compelling movie that propels us all back to that day and its stunning aftermath by showing the varying perspectives of both the public and the Royal Family.

Helen Mirren gives a beautiful performance as Elizabeth II, showing a far more emotionally dynamic character than is often attributed to the Queen. Elizabeth II, known for her unrelenting formality and rigidity, was hit with an unavoidable conflict the day that Diana died — how should she react to the death of a woman who was so utterly disliked by her entire family? Should she give in to the people of England and address the public, or stay with her family like she wishes, concerning herself only with the well-being of her beloved grandsons?

"The Queen" is really a movie about change: the old versus the new in a modern day duel, the ancient monarchy against the contemporary government. As Tony Blair (Michael Sheen) urges Elizabeth to comfort the people of England by raising the Buckingham Palace flag at half mast and reading a public statement in memory of the Princess, the Queen battles between what *was* and what *is*. In a world inundated with modernity, should tradition still be upheld?

"The Queen" is really a movie about change: the old versus the new in a modern-day duel.

While performances by Mirren, Sheen and James Cromwell (Prince Philip) were notable, there is something slightly disappointing about a mere impersonation. Though Mirren could very well be nominated for an Oscar for her dignified performance, when an actor is playing a character that has already been historically defined, one wonders how much of this character is but a presentation of the real human being, and how much is based on the creative intelligence of the individual actor.

Frears is tasteful in his portrayal of Diana's death, interspersing actual footage of the Princess throughout the film. The realistic nature of the film enhances its legitimacy. It seems as if Mirren and Sheen are the real Elizabeth II and Blair. But, as much as Frears should be celebrated for this, it also creates some controversy.

At times it feels as if screenwriter Peter Morgan takes broad artistic liberties in his representation of the events following Diana's death, and that the message of the film is slanted towards empathizing with the Royal Family. Although the point of the film could merely be to present the "intimate" reaction to the Princess's death through the eyes of family members, the realness of the film pressures the audience to perceive these reactions as fact. Despite extensive research with inside sources, sometimes Morgan's script still feels unjustifiably biased.

As a consequence of this slant, Mirren appears far too nice and sympathetic. Elizabeth II is notorious for her seemingly heartless tendencies, and although rumors are only rumors, it is difficult to decipher fact from fiction. Should we believe the tabloids that present the Queen as a cold, merciless woman, or subscribe to Morgan's portrayal, which presents her as far less one-dimensional, as she even sheds tears of sadness at the loss of Diana?

The film's fundamental weakness really lies in its story-telling process. A bizarre combination of drama and documentary, there is something disconcerting about the ambiguity of whether the film should be viewed as reality or interpretation.

Community Chorus cheers holiday spirit

Chris Heinrich

This past Saturday, Mead Chapel opened its wreath-adorned doors to the Community Chorus' annual Holiday Concert. This chorus, dating back more than 150 years, brings together local community members and students, faculty and staff of the College and pledges to foster "excellent musicianship through their rehearsals and performances."

This weekend's concert held up to the storied group's manifesto with its lively renditions of many seasonal classics. Conducted by Director of Choral Music Jeff Rehbach, the over 50 musicians played historic choruses from J. S. Bach's Christmas Cantata "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" and "The Magnificat," Heinrich Schütz's "The Story of the Birth of Christ" and Felix Mendelssohn's "Behold a Star from Jacob Shining." They also provided a diverse range of contemporary tunes including Chanukah songs by Adrian Mann and by Broadway composer Jason Robert Brown as well as Christmas tunes by noted Minnesota conductor and arranger Dale Warland; Rochester, New York composer Cary Ratcliff; and distinguished British composer and conductor John Rutter. The concert concluded with a heartfelt holiday favorite, "The 12 Days of Christmas," which resounded throughout the chapel and warmed the spirits of all in attendance.

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of 12/7 - 12/13

08

MISCHORDS AND D8 FALL JAMBO
Mead Chapel 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Free Admission
Experience an evening of musical satisfaction as these co-eds combine voices for their annual Fall concert. Featuring the impressive vocal stylings of campus-favorite Dissipated Eight, complemented by the angelic harmonies of the Mischords, this show, which will include renditions of old favorites as well as new performances, is a great way to kick off the final weekend of Fall Semester.

08

TALKING WITH…(WOMEN'S VOICES, SURREAL, FUNNY, ECCENTRIC, APOCALYPTIC)
Center for the Arts Seeler Studio Theatre 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Admission $1
This collection of monologues, written by Jane Martin and directed by Professor of Theatre and Women's and Gender Studies Cheryl Faraone, is a humorous and introspective examination of femininity. Hailed by the Washington Post as taking on "the aspect of a new poetic form, intensive in its method… a generosity of spirit and originality of imagination," Martin's monologues are sure to deliver laughs as well as inspire reflection.

09

HIRSCHFIELD INTERNATIONAL FILM SERIES: "WATER"
Dana Auditorium 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.
Written and directed by Deepa Mehta, "Water" delivers a rich exploration of Indian culture in transition. Set in India during the struggle against British colonial rule, this film examines the plight of widows forced into poverty by social customs. The story focuses on the relationship between a woman (Seema Biswas) and a man of a lower caste (Kulfhushan Kharbanda) who is a follower of Mahatma Ghandi. The third chapter of Mehta's "Elements" trilogy, "Water" has been hailed as a "magnificent film… unforgettably touching the heart." It will be shown in Hindi with English subtitles.

09

RIDDIM WORLD DANCE TROUPE FALL PERFORMANCE: "THE RIDDIM OF OZ"
McCullough Social Space 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Admission $5 in advance/$7 at the door
The Riddim World Dance Troupe, whose goals are to "provide the Middlebury College Community with the opportunity to express themselves through dances of varying genre" as well as "to educate and diversify the community through classes and performances" will be having its annual fall show this Saturday. With dance styles such as Reggae, Calypso, Hip Hop, Salsa, Merengue, Samba, Modern, Jazz and African forms, this performance promises to be both eclectic and enjoyable.

11

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA
Higher Ground, Burlington. Doors open at 8 p.m.
Tickets $18 in advance/$20 at the door
Praised by *The Washington Post* as being the "hottest Grateful Dead tribute act going," The Dark Star Orchestra recreates complete original set lists of actual Grateful Dead performances. This group has its craft so well-refined that even members of the Grateful Dead themselves have appeared on stage to lend a hand.

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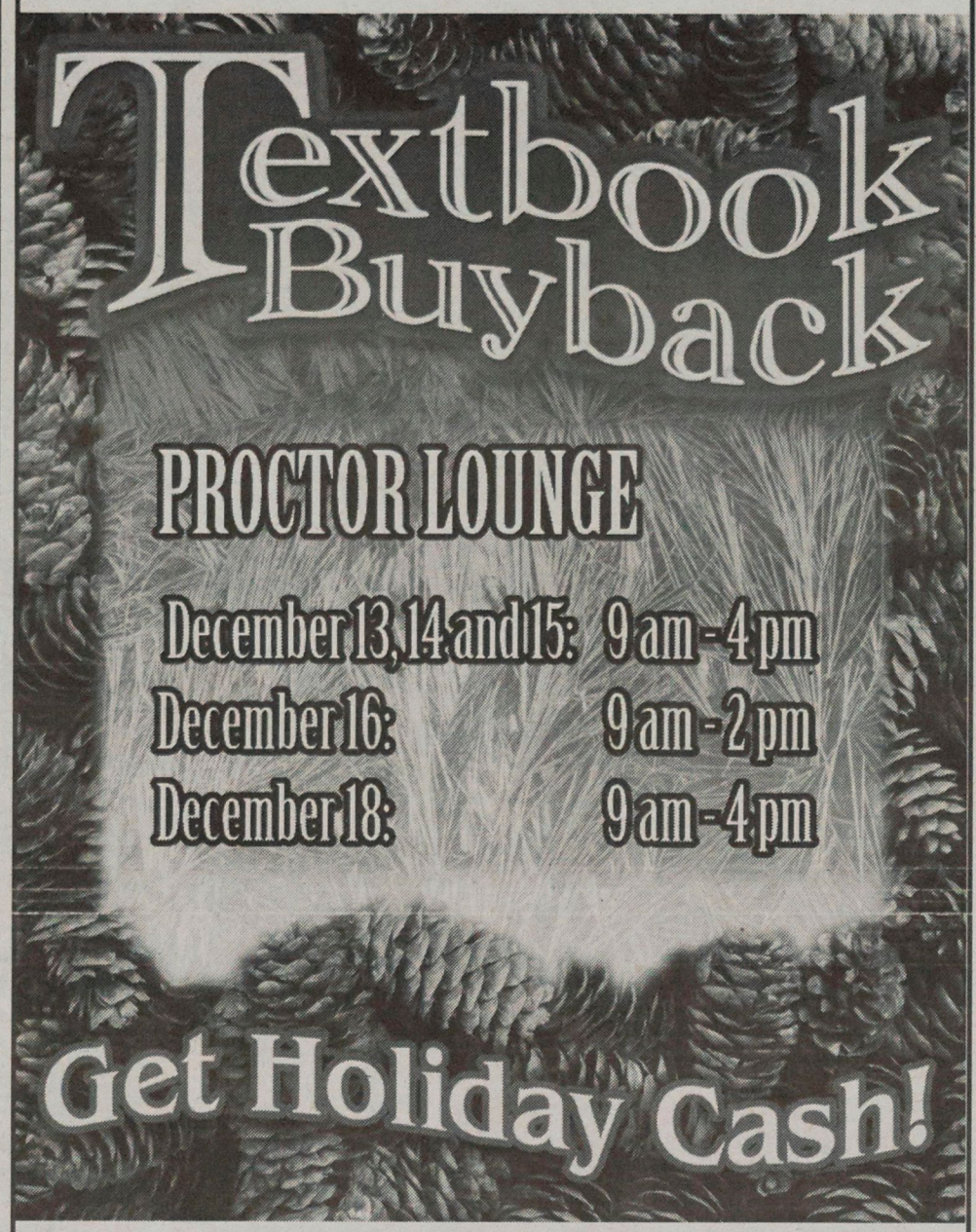

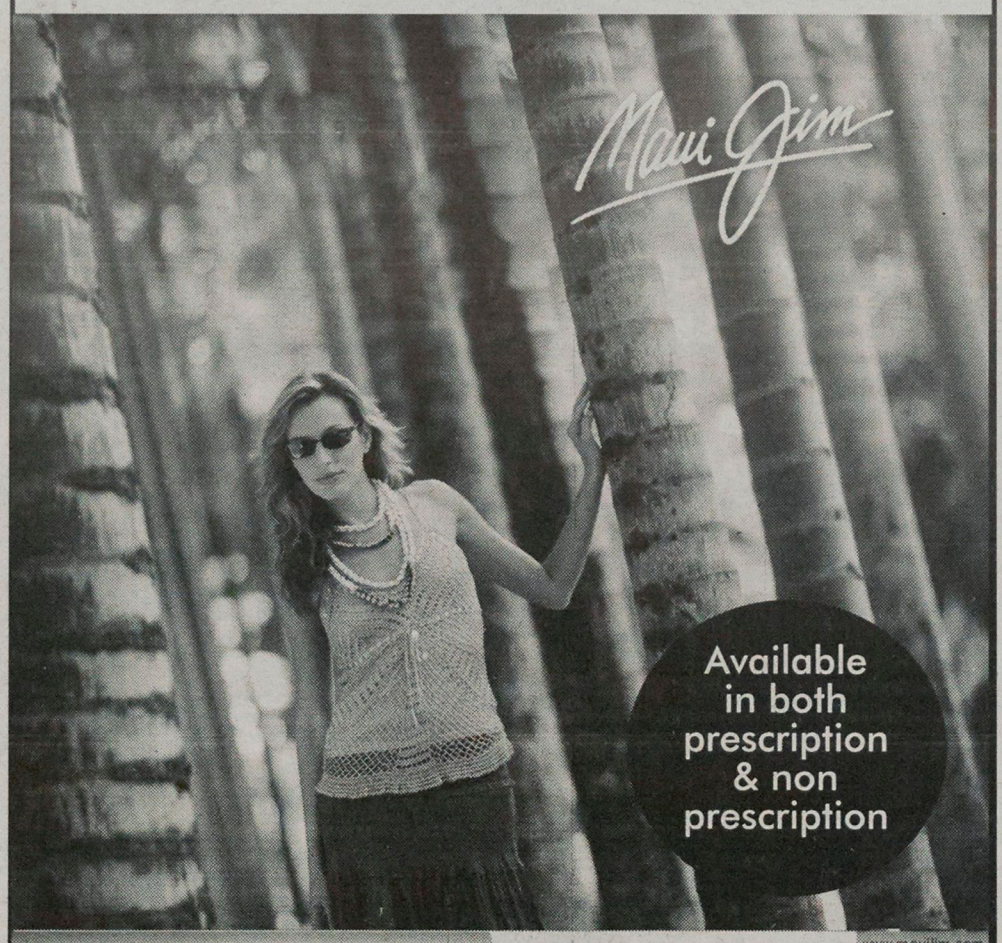

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Marie Horbar

On Sunday Dec. 3, Battell Beach hosted a Quidditch tournament. Many players participated and even more fans showed up to watch. The game, which is played in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* is quite popular among students.

Amherst crawls by Midd

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

'07. After spending an entire year studying abroad in Germany and Russia, Young returned to competition for the first time on Saturday. Showing no sign of rust, he was triumphant in both the one and three-meter diving events. Young's gutsy performance was emblematic of the way the entire men's team swam in route to their historic victory.

On the women's side, the Panthers were unable to duplicate the men's team victory as the Lord Jeffs won the meet 162-136. Nevertheless, the women had many strong performances on the afternoon as well. Maegan Olivos '07, who finished sixth in both the 200 and 500 yard freestyle, commented that the women drew strength from the supportive crowd at the Natatorium. "We had fast competition and there was a lot of energy at the pool, which was reflected in our overall performance," she said.

Marika Ross '08 led the Panthers with victories in the 100 and 200 butterfly in times that met the NCAA "B" Consideration Standards. Moreover, she upset Amherst sophomore Meghan Sterns in her specialty event, the 100 free.

Diver Alanna Hanson '08 helped Middlebury sweep all of the afternoon's diving events, with wins in the one and three-meter competitions. Despite the loss, the Panthers hope to exact revenge against the Lord Jeffs in February when the teams meet again at the NESCAC Championships.

Solomon said he was proud of how both teams pulled together for the Amherst meet and excited by the prospect of future successes.

"We are on the threshold of a great season in so many ways," said Solomon.

Hockey has been hot at home

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

the crease off of a beautiful feed from Clare Zutz '10 from behind the net. Erika Nakamura '09 closed out the scoring in the second period, following her own rebound.

The Panthers continued to pepper Mellen with shots in the third period. Jess Bennett '10 scored the last goal of the night, the first of her career, sliding a loose puck into the open half of the net with 6:52 remaining in the game.

Angie Todd '08 had 10 saves in the shutout as Middlebury outshot Conn. College 38-10.

Facing a more formidable foe the following afternoon, Middlebury was forced to rely far more upon a strong defensive effort against Amherst. In a game that was full of penalties — 16 in total for the teams combined — the Panthers made one of them count as Shannon Sylvester '07 scored the game's lone goal on the team's second power play of the game. Shannon Tarrant '07 fed the puck to Annmarie Cellino '09, who fired a wrist shot on net. Sylvester hammered home the rebound to put the Panthers up 1-0 at the 10:27 mark of the first period.

Middlebury goaltender Lani Wright '10 shone brightest of all against the Lord Jeffs, making some huge stops at pivotal points in the game.

"I was excited and nervous at the same time because it was my first home game," said Wright. "But I have a great team in front of me and I have total confidence in my defensemen so after the first couple of shots, I was calm."

Tarrant was aware of this poise in her goalie as the game wore on, saying that it was "exciting and reassuring for everyone out there to see her so calm and confident."

Although that lead would hold for the rest of the game, it was by no means an easy task for the Middlebury defense to withstand multiple Amherst barrages.

The Lord Jeffs had some bad luck of their own on their 5-on-3 power play a few minutes later in the second period as Anna MacLean hit the post with her first shot before having her rebound swallowed up on an impressive save by Wright.

Amherst came back with even greater intensity and almost all of the momentum in the final period. Wright came up with a number of crucial saves. Unable to crack Wright and the defense, Amherst called a timeout with 1:26 remaining in the game to draw up a strategy for pulling goalie Krystyn Elek. They did just that 20 seconds later, but were unable to score. A crucial face-off win by Emily McNamara '07, with 16 seconds remaining, sealed the victory for the Panthers.

Pecsok's Panthers prey on Skidmore

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

stressed the most was rebounding. At the start of the first half we were being out-rebounded handily. That was the key determinant."

Pecsok's words clearly resonated with her players, as they came out of the timeout energized. Spurred by three quick buckets from Katie Fisher '08 (18 pts, 6 boards) and the insertion of Fallon (6 pts, 3-4 FG) as an option inside, Middlebury went on a fast 10-1 run to take the lead and entered the locker room up 29-27.

The Panthers never looked back after the break, nor did they have to, as the Thoroughbreds made just seven baskets in the second half, shooting a meager 29.2 percent. Skidmore's Stephanie Fox was impressive off the bench with 10 points and four rebounds. A three-quarter court press by Skidmore only succeeded in slowing the Panthers, but failed to keep the hosts within striking distance as they added to their lead. Star point guard Emily Johnson '09 worked hard for her six points, well below her season average of 17.3, but, led by Fisher, the starters put in a solid performance, finishing with 50 of Middlebury's 64 points and seven of its nine steals.

Middlebury jumped out to an early 15-5 lead on Saturday against Union College but was unable to hold the lead. The new defense posed problems for Union, but it was Middlebury's offense that hurt the Panthers. "Our zone press overwhelmed the team, creating turnovers that we were unable to convert on the other end," said Fisher.

Baker attributed the turnaround and eventual loss to the Dutchwomen to the fact that "Number 21 (Maria Tobin) went off on shooting and we weren't able to react."

Not only did Union hold the hot hand, but a fundamental flaw developed in Middlebury's play. "Little lapses in defense and an inability to run our plays also plagued us in the second half. Union executed much more efficiently," said Baker.

Tobin was the high scorer for the Dutchwomen, finishing with 20 points. Rachel Ormsby and Marissa Dwyer also hit double digits in points. In the loss, Johnson led Middlebury in just about every statistical category including points (16), assists (4), three-point field goals (4) and minutes (34). With the victory, Union avenged the 49-45 defeat they suffered at the hands of the Panthers last season.

Despite Saturday's setback, Middlebury beat Plymouth State by 20 points to improve to 5-2 on the season.

MIDDLEBURY POWER RANKINGS

Rank	11/30	Team	Cap's Comments
1	2	W. Hockey (5-1)	They remembered how to play in Kenyon, garnering shutouts in their first two home games.
2	5	W. Basketball (5-2)	A non-conference win inexplicably shoots them up to #2 in the rankings. Merry Christmas?
3	1	Swimming & Diving	Men outperformed women against Amherst, unlike the top of this week's Power Rankings.
4	3	M. Hockey (4-2)	Expectations matter — they have lost as many games as players from last year's team.
5	6	M. Basketball (4-3)	Their 60 percent shooting at Union nearly doubled their free throw percentage against RPI.
6	4	W. Squash (2-3)	After three NESCAC losses they took it out on Smith (9-0). Take that single gender education!
7	7	Skiing	Teams will be carbon neutral this year...What? Were they taking SUV's down the slopes last year?
8	8	Indoor Track	Power Rankings would like to wish you a happy finals week and holiday season. See you in 2007!

Nirvana Bhatia

Erin Quinn provides insight on his first semester as AD

By Simon Keyes
Staff Writer

With a view overlooking the climbing wall and indoor tennis courts in the Nelson, newly appointed Athletic Director Erin Quinn '86 takes a seat at his desk. It is only his fourth month on the job, but what makes many confident he will handle his work soundly is that he brings a valuable perspective to the position.

Quinn approaches his new role armed with experience in Middlebury athletics. As a student at the College, he captained the football team. After graduation, Quinn took on short stints at other colleges before returing to Middlebury as an assistant coach for both the Panther football and lacrosse teams in the 1990-1991 school year. He became head coach for men's lacrosse in the spring of 1992, a role he would not relinquish until this year.

Using this experience, Quinn now emphasizes communication between the Athletic Department and the rest of the College. Increased communication, he believes, helps to avoid possible conflicts between classes and sporting events, or professors and students. Last Wednesday, Quinn moderated a forum in the Charles A. Dana Auditorium on the representation and integration of athletes into the student body.

The forum, "Athletics at Middlebury: Finding the Right Balance," stressed that academics and athletics need not be exclusive, and that the two can co-exist to the benefit of students, coaches and faculty alike. Even though complete solutions were not offered, Quinn said that providing answers to questions was not the main goal of the forum.

"We just wanted to raise issues and give people the opportunity to talk about these issues," said Quinn. "By that standard, it was a great success and there was a great student turnout."

So, with his first semester as A.D. almost over, *The Campus* sought an interview and an insider's perspective on what his job is really like:

***The Campus*: Can you give a brief description of the job of an Athletic Director?**

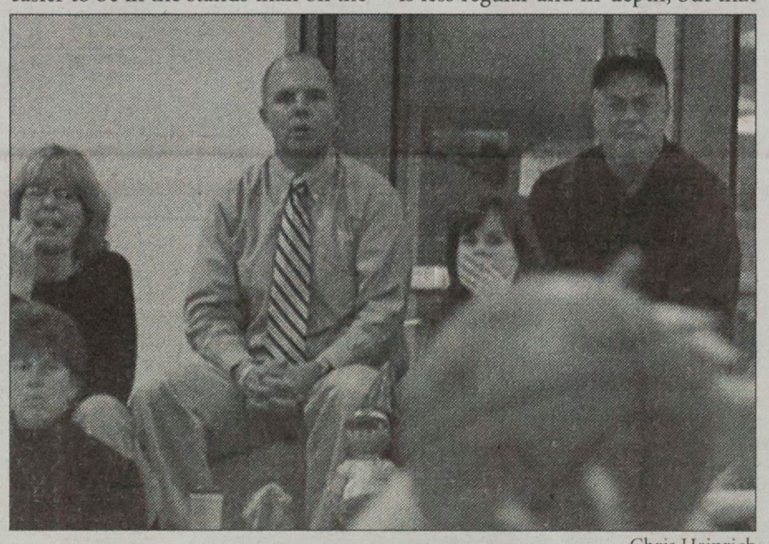
Erin Quinn: There's one role of keeping the trains running on time — making sure that there is transportation for teams and making sure that there are officials for the teams. It is important that the sporting events are staffed and set up to run smoothly and efficiently. We have to make sure our athletic contests go off smoothly, both home and away.

Some of the work is simply reactive — answering questions, not necessarily problems or issues, just questions. The proactive part of it is to be available for the alumni, faculty, students, parents and the community. I'm there to run the contests, but it's helpful when the AD is visible and available at contests to say 'Hi' to alumni, parents, and to interact with them. Honestly, that's something I want to do. That's why I love being in education, for those interactions with people.

***Campus:* What is a typical day?**

EQ: I come in pretty early in the morning. I'm kept a bit honest, though, because we have a puppy. I can't wake him up too early. Otherwise I'd be here before daybreak.

When the day ends is somewhat relative to the events we have. If it's a weekend, there are some long days with events, but that's fun. It's a lot easier to be in the stands than on the sidelines, so I'm not complaining about that. There is not a typical day in terms of what happens. There are just so many different elements on the job: traveling, meetings, whatever. It's constantly changing.



Chris Heinrich

***Campus:* Where do you eat your lunch?**

EQ: I eat at my desk a lot more than I have in the past.

***Campus:* How has the transition been from coach to AD?**

EQ: As AD your roles are campus-wide and department-wide. Coaches wear a lot of different hats with advisors, students, coaches in other sports, teaching physical education, within their own coaching realm, their recruiting, contacting alumni and advising students. All those different roles apply to the Athletic Director, but you are doing it for all the teams.

You lose the day-to-day interaction with the athletes that you coach, and there is no way to get that. When you coach, it's the full season, everyday, with the full emotions tied into sports. You get to know them well, and see them in the most intense scenarios. You watch them grow, especially if you have them for four years. As a professor, even in an active class, it's only for a semester, and you never see that student again.

I've traded the coaching interaction for a kind of interaction that is less regular and in-depth, but that has a wider constituency. You have some interaction with all of the teams when you talk with all of the captains. You recognize athletes and introduce yourself and just discuss the programs — an interaction that I would not necessarily have as a coach of a particular team.

What I have enjoyed most is watching colleagues coaching their sports that I have not had the opportunity to see in the past.

***Campus:* Do you ever seek help from Russ Reilly, former AD?**

EQ: All the time. Obviously I could call him on the phone, but he lives nearby. I seek his counsel on a regular basis.

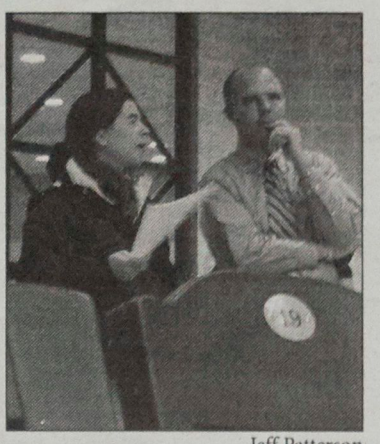
On one hand, we lost Russ Reilly, but we also lost Gail Smith, associate AD. Those two people obviously did a lot of the operation aspects of the department. But there are people who remain who have been invaluable advisors.

***Campus:* What are you looking to improve on as you move forward?**

EQ: I think, Russ Reilly and Tom Lawson before him, the coaches in the department and the administration have done a great job. It's a strong department. It's not a feeling that I have to come in and make drastic changes in day-to-day operations or overall cultures. It's not changes per se, it's just trying to build on what is a strong department with a really good perspective on what our mission is, how that fits with the overall mission, and the college's mission. I don't see anything so broken that it needs to be fixed.

***Campus:* What are you most proud of?**

EQ: I certainly can't take credit for all of the success of the teams, but as an alum and longtime department member, and now as the AD, I'm certainly proud of the results on the field. I'm also proud of the students and coaches, who are attaining these results. I don't have any impact on their success, but I will say that sitting where I sit, overseeing all of it, I do take a lot of pride in their success on the field in knowing what else was going on while they did that. The coaches teach lessons to their athletes that are bigger than wins and losses and the teams are engaged in community service projects, while being outstanding students, as well as winning on the field. I am incredibly proud of that.



Jeff Patterson

***Campus:* Are you looking to expand the number of varsity sports at Middlebury?**

EQ: We have 30 varsity sports, with which we try to create opportunities for different people. I would not think that doors are closed for other opportunities, but I'm not far enough along on the job to be faced with any of these decisions.

***Campus:* Are you still going to coach lacrosse in the spring?**

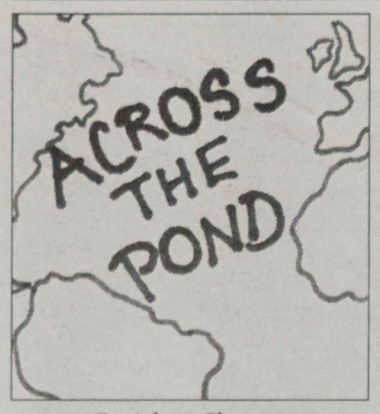
EQ: No. I think that there is too much to this job to do justice to both the department and the team. Both jobs are too demanding.

***Campus:* What is your favorite sport to watch?**

EQ: I coached lacrosse here for 17 years, 15 as a head coach. I never played lacrosse. In my high school career I played football, basketball, baseball and ran track. And at various times of my life I swam competitively as well. I like sports, and have always liked sports, and have been active in a lot of different sports, so to me, the fun has been not only overseeing sports, but being able to be a fan of those contests. I've played or coached football for the past 33 years, so that's probably number one.

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week:	*Geoff Homer*	*James Kerrigan*	*Jeff Patterson*
Who will win the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl? Florida or Ohio State?	FLORIDA I have never liked Ohio State. I believe Florida will play with a bigger heart and will get the close win.	OHIO STATE Troy Smith is a great leader and will carry them to the national championship. Florida is not the second best team in the country and the score should reflect this.	OHIO STATE I'll take the team with the better kicker. OSU's Aaron Pettrey made eight out of 11 kicks including two from over 50 yards. Florida's Chris Hettland, on the other foot, made four out of 13 with a long of 33.
Which hockey team will be the first to score an empty-net goal? The men or the women?	WOMEN Eeeney meeney miney moe?	WOMEN My record indicates that I am doing something wrong in Editor's Picks — time to go against my instincts.	MEN The men's team scored five empty-net goals last year. The women scored only two. I'll play the percentages and take the men.
Will Jeff Patterson or Geoff Homer enter 2007 with the better Editors' Picks record?	GEOFF If you were running for President of the United States – why the f--- would you vote for the other guy?	NEITHER I cannot even get my own picks right, so how should I be able to correctly guess my co-editor's picks? Regardless, hopefully 2007 will be kinder to me.	NEITHER All Jeffs/Geoffs — except Amherst athletes — were created equal.
Record:	**12-15 (.444)**	**9-18 (.333)**	**12-15 (.444)**



By Adam Clayton

Over the last few days, amid much work, I have been asserting my right as a European to skip class in order to watch football — the Champions League to be exact. Final papers, group projects (sorry guys) and any other obligation will be postponed, or simply ignored, as I watch ESPN2. As you have probably guessed, I thanked the heavens for the rare opportunity to see European football. For those of you who are foreign-exchange students, I'm sure many of you have held the same prayer, withholding any religious differences.

For those of you unaware of the vast divide between European and American sports, here is a general observation from an objective outsider: American sports are communist. There, I've said it.

The greatest irony of the 20th and 21st centuries exists within the four major American sporting leagues. McCarthyism seemingly missed the most glaring example of communism in the institutions most U.S. citizens hold dearest in their heart — the NFL, NBA, NHL and the national pastime. With salary caps, luxury tax and a draft whose sole purpose is as an equalizer, American sports sound like they took cues straight from Marx's guide to developing sports.

The results are a more even playing field intended to create greater competition — just look at the NBA last year and compare it with today. For this Americans should be proud.

In the UK or in Spain the closest many fans get to celebrating a victory is watching Manchester United or Real Madrid lose (the Yankees complicate things), while in the States, even the Clippers can go from being the most ridiculed team in NBA history to, well, being replaced by the Knicks, whose team single handedly demonstrates that basketball could probably do without such restrictions. So what, you may be asking, is the downside to all of this? Surely more competition and unpredictability is better.

There is a downside. Despite all the benefits, it is unfair to teams, players and fans to be subjected to such tyranny. For a start, it doesn't reward individual players to the extent that they should be. "Starbury" sits (quite literally) on the same maximum contract as LeBron, while fans have to see well-designed teams establish dynasties that then fall apart once their players decline. Above all, managers and coaches can sit back in the knowledge that a poor season will gift them a draft pick that can help save their job the following year. All of these are disincentives for maximum effort.

If you're still unsure, go to a bar and watch the fans at the end of the NBA finals in June and compare them to fans celebrating the Champions League Final one month before. Without wishing to discredit the passion of the NBA, I'm sure you'd find a much greater expression of joy among the latter.

Mickey Gilchrist reaches the big 5-0 in 5-0 shutout

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

first period and Mark Carragher scored on a four on three in the second. The Panthers had no answers.

Southern Maine goalie David Beckles made 19 saves in the victory as he shut down and shut out the visitors. "He had some big saves," said Shane Mandes '10. "We just weren't burying it."

Beckles' counterpart, Doug Raeder '09, who made 14 saves in the loss, had similar praise for the opposing netminder: "He had a real good game," he said. "We just couldn't find the back of [his] net."

MEN'S HOCKEY

FRIDAY, DEC. 1

Middlebury	0
Southern Maine	2

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

Middlebury	5
Salem State	0

The Huskies stole the Panthers' thunder — Middlebury came into the game after a 7-1 thrashing of Potsdam — and a thunderstorm stole USM Ice Arena's electricity, causing the game to be called with 11:59 to play. The game was put on ice for 30 minutes until both coaches decided to end the game prematurely.

"There was some talk that [the rink] wasn't going to be ready for an hour, so the coaches had a meeting with the refs and they just decided to go with whoever was up," said Raeder. "It was weird, a guy took a shot and [the lights] went out and they came back on and they went out again," said Raeder. "There was just silence. We just stopped and went to our benches."

As a result, the Panthers had to pine away in defeat as they rode the pine in the Pine Tree state. It was the Panthers second loss of the season — something unusual this early in the year. Last year, the team lost two games *all* season. To put it in perspective, the last time the men's team has lost twice this early in the season was 2002, before any of the current players were enrolled. That year was also the last time the men's team did not win a national championship.

Still, the resiliency of this team should keep fans confident that the familiar blue jerseys will be buzzing around Kenyon Arena in March. Middlebury came back on Saturday and handily handed Salem State a 5-0 loss.

"It was a big turnaround for us. Hopefully it is the start of something new," said Raeder.

"It was huge," added Mandes. "Not just the win, but the way [the team] played. We got the energy and the hard work back — the roots of Middlebury hockey…we got the jump back in our step."

The Panthers out-shot the Vikings 56-18, taking advantage of 17 Salem State penalties. Ross Cherry '08 recorded his sixth career shutout and Mickey Gilchrist '08 scored a hat trick to reach the 50-goal plateau in his career. With each feat, both are stepping up higher and higher in the record books.

Gilchrist's first strike came when he batted the puck, which was two feet off of the ice, into the net. Number two went top-shelf on a penalty kill mission and number 50 came after he, according to Raeder, "walked around like three people and shoved it in."

"Every single goal was absolutely sick," said Reader, who oohed and ahhed from the sidelines. "It was good old Mickey Gilchrist."

This Friday, the Panthers will take on Plattsburgh State at Stafford Ice Arena in N.Y. Middlebury will be looking to avenge an earlier 4-2 defeat to the Cardinals, which came on neutral ice at the PrimeLink Shoot Out. Recently Plattsburgh tied Oswego, the number two ranked team in the country, 5-5, on Dec. 2.

Chris Bohorquez

Rob MacIntyre '08 had three helpers in Midd's 5-0 win over Salem State.

BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

21-0	**All-time record of the women's hockey team against Amherst after their 1-0 win Saturday.**
11.1	**Free-throw shooting percentage of the men's basketball team in the first half against RPI.**
11.1	**Three-point shooting percentage of the men's basketball team in the second half against RPI.**
11:59	**Time left in the third period of men's hockey game, with Southern Maine leading 2-0, when the power went out leading both coaches to call the game.**
2	**Goals scored in the last 9:55 of the third period by the men's hockey team in their previous game, when they beat Potsdam six days earlier.**
3	**Goals scored in the last 8:39 of the third period by the men's hockey team in their next game, when they beat Salem State the next day.**

Panthers pay the price at the free-throw line

By Jeff Klein
STAFF WRITER

Four consecutive road games. A record-breaking win. There were many reasons for the Middlebury men's basketball team to be revved up for its home opener against Rensselaer in Pepin Gymnasium last Thursday night.

How much were the Panthers looking forward to finally stepping onto their home floor?

"For me the first home game is always the most exciting," said Andrew Harris '08, who led all scorers with 21 points, including four three-point baskets. "When you have supportive fans like ours, it is so much easier to come out with a lot of intensity."

Evan Thompson '07 offered a candid response: "After being heckled by fans from other schools the past few games, it was nice to finally hear our own fans heckling the other team," he said. Thompson scored eight points and grabbed 10 rebounds in the game. "There's no place like the Pepin Palace."

The Panthers may have been ready to jump all over RPI, but a decisive 8-0 run by the Red Hawks late in the game pushed the game out of reach for the Panthers, who were defeated by a 69-64 margin. As in Middlebury's loss to St. Lawrence earlier in the season, in which the Panthers were plagued by a 17-0 Saints run in the second half after having led by six, the team played well in spurts but could not display the consistency necessary to win the game.

Energized by the Middlebury faithful, the Panthers roared out to an early 10-2 lead, holding Rensselaer scoreless for the first four minutes and 53 seconds of the game. Although the Red Hawks would briefly take the lead in the first half, two back-to-back threes by Harris sent the crowd into a frenzy and gave Middlebury a 33-28 lead heading into halftime.

"For me there is no greater thrill than hitting a momentous three pointer and hearing the crowd erupt as I run back on defense," said Harris. "You definitely remember the cheers of the fans from your previous shot and it instills a lot of confidence on your next shot. Shooting is all about confidence and playing in front of a home crowd can give you the energy and confidence it takes to shoot well."

The second half proved to be a dogfight, with neither team able to take control until the Red Hawks' decisive late run. A basket by Ben Rudin '09 cut the lead to four with 35 seconds remaining, but that's as close as the Panthers would get. Another inspired effort by Middlebury had not been enough to prevent the Panthers from collecting their third loss of the season. Their 32.1 percent free throw shooting did them in.

"Experience itself is not something that can be practiced," said Thompson when asked how the team would look to prevent these all-too-familiar meltdowns during crucial stretches of games. "But by continuing to be challenged by other teams, and our coaching staff during practice, we can learn what we need to do to prevent those types of situations from happening. It's all about being calm while staying aggressive throughout the game's highs and lows. Once we have that confidence, we shouldn't see an end result like the one against St. Lawrence and RPI."

Two days later at Union, the Panthers displayed that confidence and got a more favorable end result, defeating the Dutchmen 76-70. Once again, Middlebury exhibited an extremely balanced scoring attack, something that has been emblematic of the team's unity and non-selfish play. Five players scored in double figures, with Thompson netting 19 points to lead the way.

"Our game against Union was a great win for us," he said. "Tied at halftime, we had 20 minutes to show that we were the better team. By taking great shots, having good ball movement, and getting stops, we were able to hold off a solid Union team in their gym."

As evidenced by the team's promising, at times unstoppable play, Middlebury is clearly a better team than its record indicates.

"We know our team has a lot of potential and right now we're working on maximizing it," Thompson stressed. "We have all the necessary components to win out-of-league and within NESCAC this year."

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

The Campus scores an interview with Shannon Sylvester

By James Kerrigan
Sports Editor

With three NESCAC and NCAA championships already under her belt, Shannon Sylvester '07 along with her women's hockey team have a strong desire to continue these two streaks. After an opening night loss to Plattsburgh, the Panthers have gotten back to their winning ways and look to be a contender come March.

With a record of 82-10-1 in just over three seasons, the women have put together one of the most impressive and dominant stretches in Middlebury's recent sports history. Sylvester has been an integral part of the sucess — in 91 career games, she has tallied 33 goals and 44 assists for 77 points. Her impact is not limited to the slot and score sheet, though. Sylveter's leadership has translated to a motivated and committed team as well as important wins and championship victories.

This past weekend, Sylvester lit the lamp in the first period against Amherst — her goal turned out to be the game winner in a 1-0, nail-biting victory.

Molly Vitt '09, who assisted Sylvester's goal against Conn. College, knows where her captain and linemate is on the ice at all times, but does she know what it's like living with Sylvester on a day-to-day basis? Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07, Sylvester's off-campus housemateand teammate, has spent four years getting to know Sylvester, but will it be enough to outplay Vitt in the teammate vs. roommate competition?

Nirvana Bhatia

Teammate vs. Roommate

	Sylvester	Vitt	Kurtz-Phelan
What kind of hockey stick do you play with?	Z-Bubble	Z-Bubble (1)	Righy Bauer (0)
What is your most played song on iTunes?	"One" by U2 & Mary J. Blige	"Everyday I'm Hustling" (0)	"Ayo for Yayo" (0)
Who has the smelliest hockey gloves on the team?	Ellen Sargent '07	Alison Graddock '07 (0)	Ashley Bairos '10 (0)
Besides hockey, what is your favorite sport to play?	Soccer	Soccer (1)	Soccer (1)
Favorite holiday of the year?	Christmas	Christmas (1)	Christmas (1)
Who is your favorite character on Grey's Anatomy?	George or McDreamy	McDreamy (1)	Christina (0)
Growing up, who was your favorite athlete?	Katie King	Wayne Gretzky (0)	Ray Bourque (0)
final score...		**4.0**	**2.0**

Although no consensus was reached on the topic of smelliest hockey gloves in the locker room, the verdict is in on inside the locker room — Vitt outperformed Kurtz-Phelan to cement her position as the one who knows Sylvester best. Although Vitt earned the G.P.A. equivalent of an A, the only thing that matters to Vitt and the rest of the women's hockey team is the letter W.

Vitt and Kurtz-Phelan identified leadership and physical strength as Sylvester's most valuable assets, while the captain thinks her speed is what sperates her from other players. Although the answers did not match up, Sylvester undoubtedly uses a combination of all three qualities, and an Easton Z-Bubble stick, to lead the Panthers to victory game after game and year after year.

"Everyday I'm Hustling" appears to be at least one of Sylvester's favorite songs, as it is one of the team's favorite mottos.

The Panthers will definitely be hustling this Friday night as they host Neuman College from Aston, Pennsylvania. Sylvester and company stand at 5-1 on the season and look to maintain their momentum heading into the holiday season and the new year.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Dec. 2 Dec. 5	W. Basketball	Union Plymouth St.	71-58 L 73-53 W	Four players in double figures and a 19-27 mark on free throws carry Midd.
Dec. 2 Dec. 5	M. Basketball	Union S. Vermont	76-70 W 100-76 W	Andrew Harris '08 led Midd over S. Vermont with a double-double.
Dec. 1 Dec. 2	W. Hockey	Conn. Coll Amherst	6-0 W 1-0 W	Goalies Angie Todd and Lani Wright stop 38 shots in back-to-back shutouts.
Dec. 1 Dec. 2	M. Hockey	S. Maine Salem State	2-0 L 5-0 W	Midd rebounds from second loss of season with Mickey Gilchrist's hat trick.
Dec. 1 Dec. 2	W. Squash	Wesleyan Invitational	5-4, L; 6-3 L 7-2 L; 9-0 W	Panthers salvage the weekend with a sweep of Smith College.
Dec. 2	Swim & Dive	Amherst	M: 163-135 W W: 162-136 L	The men's team beat Amherst for only the second time in 20 years.

SPORTS BRIEFS

BY GEOFF HOMER, SPORTS EDITOR

M/W soccer players honored

Five members of the Panther soccer squads have earned NSCAA All-New England honors for their performances this fall. Kim Walker '07, Zack Toth '07 and Casey Ftorek '08 all were named to the first-team, while Caitrin Abshere '07 was named to the second-team and Dave Lee '07 was selected to the third-team.

Walker and Abshere led the Panthers to the NESCAC Championship and advanced to the sweet 16 of the NCAA playoffs. The two midfielders had solid seasons for the Panthers, with Abshere scoring six goals and assisting on five, for 17 points. Walker tallied four goals and had three assists. Abshere ends her career as Middlebury's all-time leader in assists with 24.

The men's squad advanced to the NESCAC Championship where they lost in penalty kicks to Williams and earned a berth in the NCAA tournament. Toth, a first-team All-NESCAC selection ended his year with a 1.05 goals against average and six shutouts. He allowed no goals in 200 minutes during the NESCAC Championship.

Ftorek tallied 34 points on the season, tying the school record and led the team with 13 goals and eight assists. A first-team All-NESCAC selection, he led the league in points. Lee was selected to the third-team because of his key contributions and leadership to Middlebury's defensive success this season as the team only allowed 0.98 goals per game.

Squash falters in tournament

Susan Hatfield

After starting off the season with an 8-1 win against Conn. College at the Dartmouth Invitational, the women's squash team competed in the two-day Wesleyan Invitational. The Panthers weren't as successful this time around, as they dropped three games to NESCAC opponents before closing out the tournament with a win over Smith.

The Panthers opened with a hard-fought 5-4 defeat to Colby. Hannah Baker '07 and Sally Hatfield '09, the one and two players, easily defeated the lady Mules they faced. Also victorious were Elizabeth McMorris '09.5 and Elizabeth Parker '07.5. Following Colby, the team faced Bates, who defeated the Panthers by a score of 6-3. Hatfield, Parker and Brooke Beatt '10 were the only point winners for Middlebury.

Saturday morning, the Panthers hoped to put Friday's disappointing effort behind them, but they started off right where they left off. This time, the Panthers were defeated by Bowdoin, the third college from Maine represented at the tournament, by a score of 7-2. Both Baker and McMorris, playing at number five, won their matches. Hatfield, Avery Tilney '09 and Parker all took their opponent to five games before falling.

After the defeat, the Panthers regrouped and were determined to win their last match to avoid a long trip back to the Green Mountain state. All nine Panthers won their matches as the women annihilated Smith College 9-0. Baker did not give up a single point, as she breezed to victory. Hatfield, Caroline Woodworth '09, Tilney and McMorris all posted strong victories over their opponents while Katie Hawkins '07 allowed only one point in her three-game win. Kara Zarchin '06.5, Beatt and Parker rounded out the Panthers' scoring as the trio cruised to victories in which each girl gave up a total of two points each in her match.

Baker, Parker, Hatfield and McMorris each finished the weekend with 3-1 records, while Beatt went 2-2. The Panthers are now off until mid-January, when they will travel back to Conn. to compete in the Yale Invitational.

IM bball champ crowned

Ben Shapiro '09 and his appropriately named Can't Miss intramural basketball team took home the 2006 3-on-3 men's basketball championship on Tuesday afternoon. After advancing to the finals in which they won their previous two games by scores of 15-10 and 15-12, Can't Miss beat defending champion Balls Deep 15-10 for the right to the coveted gray tee-shirts.

Shapiro scored nine points, hitting three three-pointers (which counted as twos) including a pristine, parabolic game-winner.

"They played well," said Andrew Germansky '08 a three-time finalist, "they made everything. What can you do."

Matt Joseph '09 and David Ellis '09 each contributed two baskets towards the victory, which took a full amount of effort. There were a total of 13 fouls in the game, some of which could have been whistled as flagrant if a referee had been present. Still, Can't Miss led for most of the game as they held 7-4 and 13-10 advantages before the final bucket.

Unsung Hero of the Week

Lani Wright '10 (Women's Hockey)
The first-year tender stopped 28 Amherst shots, including 11 in the final period to earn her first career shutout and keep the Panthers' winning streak alive.

Sports

Nirvana Bhatia

Women have not given up a goal in 192:05

By Seth Miran
Staff Writer

For most teams, the home opener is a source of both excitement and nervousness. For this year's women's hockey team, it was far more the former than the latter as they rolled over Conn. College by a score of 6-0 on Friday night before holding off Amherst in a thrilling 1-0 contest on Saturday afternoon.

The Panthers started the scoring early against the Camels of Conn. College and did not let up until the game was well out of reach. After a Conn. College penalty a mere 22 seconds into the game, the Panthers cycled the puck nicely on the power play before Ashley Bairos '10 lit the lamp at the 1:08 mark for a 1-0 lead. The rest of the first period was quiet until Bairos notched her second power play goal of the game with 3:10 remaining, this time rifling a slapshot past Camel keeper Lauren Mellen from the left point.

Middlebury came out firing in the second period, adding three more goals on shots from the slot. Shannon Sylvester '07 tallied the first, firing home a rebound 4:26 into the period. A wide-open Randi Dumont '09 followed three minutes later with a goal of her own from in front of

See Hockey has, page 24

Losing to Jeffs becomes water under the bridge for swimmers

By Allison Ortega
Staff Writer

Former collegiate swimmer President Ronald D. Liebowitz and his family were among the many members of the college community who showed up at the Natatorium on Saturday for the men's and women's swimming and diving teams' first dual meet of the season against Amherst. They did not leave disappointed. The exceptionally close contest provided non-stop action and featured many highlights for the Panthers. Perhaps most impressive was the men's 163-135 team victory, which marked just the second Panther win over the Lord Jeffs in the program's 20-year history.

"It was obvious that our men had something to prove on Saturday in their first meet of the season. I could tell from their focus and energy all week that they were ready, but I really had no idea that we would win so many events," said Coach Peter Solomon. "Having home pool advantage with many parents and spectators cheering played into the excitement of the meet for both the men's and women's teams."

The meet's opening event, the 200 medley relay, proved to be the harbinger of the impressive performances that followed all afternoon. The Panthers took both first and second places in the relay, with the "A" relay team of Zach Woods '09, Tim Lux '07, Rob Collier '07 and John Rayburn '06.5 posting a winning time that Solomon noted is currently one second better than any other NESCAC performance to date.

The Panthers then proceeded to hold Amherst All-American Ethan Treat winless in his best events. First Collier edged Treat in the 200 fly. Later in the meet, after he already won the 100 and 200 backstroke events, Woods claimed his third individual victory by defeating Treat in the 200 IM.

Sophomore Kevin O'Rourke's win in the 500 free with his personal best swim and Lux's multiple breaststroke victories also proved to be valuable contributions to the men's triumph against Amherst.

The most significant advantage for the Panthers' path to victory, however, was diver Michael Young

See Amherst crawls, page 24

Chris Heinrich

Women's bball outruns the Thoroughbreads

By Andrew Donnantuono
Staff Writer

Women's basketball split its weekend series against two New York teams, defeating Skidmore 64-48 on Friday night in Pepin Gymnasium before traveling to Schenectady on Saturday where they fell to Union 71-58.

Friday night's festivities began on a rather unusual note, as a rare December thunderstorm greeted fans headed to the game with flashes of lightning occurring not far from the Athletic complex. It was not only Mother Nature that played tricks on the crowd of 225 — the public address system failed to pipe in an audible version of the national anthem.

"it started over multiple times and ultimately never played," said Kaitlyn Fallon '10.

Still, Skidmore had no trouble putting these oddities behind them, as the Thoroughbreds jumped out to a quick 9-2 lead. Sloppy play in the form of turnovers, coupled with poor perimeter-shooting put the Panthers in a deep, but by no means insurmountable, hole.

By bearing down on defense and hustling for loose balls, Middlebury stayed in the game. With 6:50 left in the first half, Coach Noreen Pecsok took the team's second timeout with Middlebury trailing 24-16.

Forward Aylie Baker '09 (7 pts, 18 mins) said, "The area Coach

See Pecsok's Panthers, page 24

Maine is no vacationland for men's hockey

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

At the beginning of the year, Men's Hockey Coach Bill Beaney admitted that this year's schedule, which alternates every year from playing teams at home and on the road, was the more difficult one. "A lot of the traditionally toughest teams are away," he said, citing "the Maine trip" as an example because, "the last time we had two games up at Maine we lost both of them."

At the time, Beaney was referring to the challenge of playing NESCAC rivals Colby and Bowdoin in January, but on Friday night the University of Southern Maine proved to be equally as tough. The Huskies used both a power failure and a surging power play to beat Middlebury 2-0 in Gorham. It was the first time the Panthers were shut out in 684 days — the last one coming in a 2-0 loss to Colby.

In just over 48 minutes of hockey, the Panthers wracked up 27 penalty minutes to Southern Maine's ten, and they paid the price. Bobby Siers scored on a five on four in the

See Mickey Gilchrist, page 26

Men's basketball

Marie Horbar

Point guard Ben Rudin '09 and the Panthers peaked too early in their home opener on Thursday night against RPI. Despite a 10-2 Middlebury lead early in the game, the Red Hawks handed them a 69-64 loss.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM: SHANNON SYLVESTER
Who knows the senior hockey captain better? page 27

GAMES TO WATCH
Women's Basketball vs. Green Mtn., Dec. 7 at 7:00
Women's Hockey vs. Neumann, Dec. 8 at 7:00

INTERVIEW:
How has Erin Quinn's first season as Athletic Director been? page 25